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## *Everywhere Christmas To-Night*

*Phillips Brooks*

**C**HRISTMAS in lands of the fir tree and pine,  
Christmas in lands of the palm tree and vine;  
Christmas where snow peaks stand solemn and white,  
Christmas where cornfields lie sunny and bright;  
Everywhere, everywhere Christmas to-night!

\* \* \* \*

So the stars of the midnight which compass us round,  
Shall see a strange glory and hear a sweet sound,  
And cry, "Look! the earth is aflame with delight,  
O sons of the morning rejoice at the sight."  
Everywhere, everywhere Christmas to-night!

\*Reprinted by permission of E. P. Dutton and Company, New York.



## Is There a Santa Claus?

Many years have passed since the editor of the *New York Sun* sat down to answer a letter from a worried eight-year-old reader. It had shaken her whole world to have someone tell her that there is no Santa Claus. The reply, originally published as an editorial in the *Sun*, so completely expresses the spirit of Christmas, that it has become one of our most beloved Christmas classics. The editor was Francis P. Church.

"Dear Editor—I am 8 years old.

"Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

"Papa says 'If you see it in The Sun it's so.'

"Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

"Virginia O'Hanlon"

"**V**IRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, VIRGINIA, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

"Yes, VIRGINIA, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

"Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

"You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

"No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, VIRGINIA, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."



## Suggestions for *Christmas*

### TALES FOR READING ALOUD\*

**R**EADING ALOUD WITH the whole family should be a part of every Christmas—a tradition in every home. No Christmas party is complete without a story. Some of the familiar and beloved tales are listed below.

#### Nativity

The Gospel according to St. Luke  
The Gospel according to Matthew  
The Life of Our Lord, Charles Dickens

#### Legends

The Legend of the Christmas Rose, Selma Lagerlof  
The Last Dream of the Old Oak Tree, Hans Christian Andersen  
The Legend of the Christmas Tree, Clement C. Moore  
The Fir Tree, Hans Christian Andersen  
The Holy Night, Selma Lagerlof  
The Noel Candle, Clement C. Moore

#### Santa Claus

Is There a Santa Claus? Francis P. Church  
Behind the White Brick, Frances Hodgson Burnett  
How Santa Claus Came to Simpson's Bar, Francis Bret Harte

#### Sentiment

A Christmas Carol, Charles Dickens  
The Birds' Christmas Carol, Kate Douglas Wiggin  
Little Women's Christmas, Louisa May Alcott  
The Little Match Girl, Hans Christian Andersen  
On Christmas Eve, Helene Stokl  
The White Shawl, Esther Chapman Robb  
Holy Morning, Elizabeth Madox Roberts

#### Adventure

Rock Crystal, Adalbert Stifter  
The Christmas Wreck, Frank R. Stockton  
The Louis d'Or, Francois Coppee  
Solange, the Wolf-Girl, Marcel Prevost  
A Tragedy, Antonio Mare

#### Humor

The Story of the Goblins Who Stole a Sexton, Charles Dickens  
Dulce Domum, Kenneth Grahame

\*Although these stories are in the library of many, this complete collection can be obtained in one volume—*Christmas Tales for Reading ALOUD*, edited by Robert Lohan. Stephen Daye Press, New York. \$3.75.

A Good Old-Fashioned Christmas, R. H. Mottram  
Mrs. Brownlow's Christmas Party, Willis Boyd Allen  
The Three Low Masses, Alphonse Daudet  
The Thieves Who Couldn't Help Sneezing, Thomas Hardy  
How I Spent My Million, Edgar J. Park  
The Mouse That Didn't Believe in Santa Claus, Eugene Field  
A Miserable, Merry Christmas, Lincoln Steffens  
Duke's Christmas, Ruth McEnery Stuart  
The Gift of the Magi, O. Henry  
Crisp New Bills for Mr. Teagle, Frank Sullivan  
I Take Supper With My Wife, Gustave Droz  
When I Fetched the Fixin's fer Christmas Dinner, Peter Rosegger  
Pioneers in Maine, John Gould  
Dancing Dan's Christmas, Damon Runyon

#### Twelve Great Poems

Christmas Voices, William Shakespeare  
Christmas—1863, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow  
Kings in Conceit, Anonymous  
Christmas and New Year Bells, Alfred Tennyson  
The Mahogany Tree, William Makepeace Thackeray  
Christmas Everywhere, Phillips Brooks  
Heaven Cannot Hold Him, Christina Rossetti  
The Night Before Christmas, Clement C. Moore  
To the Fir Tree, Anonymous  
Jest 'fore Christmas, Eugene Field  
Good Relief, Robert Frost  
A New Song, Ernest Rhys

#### MUSIC

Fill your community building with Christmas music. In addition to carol singing as a part of your program, play recorded Christmas music of many lands. You will find organ records especially good if you plan to use an amplifier. Beautiful recordings of carols are available in Christmas albums, or singly. Among some of the albums, particularly good are: Christmas Carols of Many Lands, Vienna Boys Choir (Victor Red Seal); Christmas Carols, Alexander D. Richardson, organist (Victor); Carols of the English Yuletide, Victor Chapel Choir, Emile Cote, organ and piano; Carols for Christmas Eve, Victor Choir, Emile Cote, organ.



"Never underestimate the power of a woman . . ."



## HELP WANTED:

### Women Partners for Recreation Leadership

Margaret Hickey

I AM NOT AN expert in your field at all. I am an observer, a participator. I am a beneficiary of what you are doing, and that is why I have come to this meeting this evening—because during these last two years I have been observing your work in many places.

In the Public Affairs Department at the *Ladies' Home Journal*, we have been trying to bring community success stories to our readers. We have been especially interested in helping people to conserve and to use intelligently their resources—natural, human and institutional.

We have been trying to find a new and a vigorous strategy of cooperation, because we have felt that, in this postwar period, something like that must be found. It is a strange thing that in times of war and times of depression we actually make the greatest progress in our community life, and then something happens when, as we say, we go "back to peacetime." Indeed we do go back, and many gains are lost.

We have been looking into those communities where good will and high responsibility abound. There has been great interest on the part of our readers in what communities are doing to solve their problems; particularly have they been interested in the stories of recreation that we have brought to them.

Let me tell you about one of these communities. Smithfield is one of the good, quiet places. The people there have a sense of belonging to their community. Their fellowship in play has helped them to get that sense of belonging. They think of their town now with a special pride. You will

As Public Affairs Editor of the *Ladies' Home Journal*, Miss Hickey has received letters from hundreds of women who are showing great interest in what is being done in communities to solve present day problems. Here is a condensation of her address to recreation workers at the 1948 Recreation Congress.

find their young people running their own teams, sharing in the planning of their teenage club. You will find them helping the little ones act out an annual Jack and Jill, and if you catch a youngster at the police station—well, he is likely to be there only to talk about his part in the accident prevention program.

All over that community, people, little people and big people, young people and older people, are working and playing together. How did that all start?

Well, back in a very hot summer seven years ago, there was Mrs. Christopher, with her five-year-old Billy, going from door to door. She was collecting toys and games, and asking people to come over and help with the summer playground. She was telling the parents of Smithfield that there was a real troublemaker in their midst—the lack of something to do.

"Why," she said, "one day last week I went down to the river swimming hole with some of the neighborhood brood and there was a no trespassing sign up, and then I went over to another spot and there was another sign. Finally we did find a place, but then I began to worry—is that water polluted or not?" And she concluded, "So I took the youngsters back."

Let's look at Smithfield now. Mrs. Christopher is only one of the seventy men and women who pioneered in what was to become the Smithfield Recreation Association. People barely recall what the women did; they don't remember the hot summer afternoons when women went out and talked on front porches about how important it was for

a small town to realize that the fences were up everywhere. Today the Smithfield Recreation Association is a going concern.

Of course, they haven't done all the things they have wanted to do or that they should do; you can pick holes in what they have done; and when they show you their recreation equipment, their playground equipment, it doesn't look very impressive. But just remember that they didn't have *any* equipment seven years ago, and that they have opened up the community purse strings—the most difficult thing to do. They have succeeded where many a wealthier and more highly geared community has failed, and now there are a dozen or so nearby towns following their pattern of a planned recreation program.

This is a simple little story, and yet it is the story, over and over again, in this country, of how we really get things going.

Whether we admit it or not, we all reflect the uneasiness caused by the international situation. On the hour, every hour, new responsibilities are heaped upon us.

Reckoned by our standards of living, we are, beyond doubt, the most fortunate people in the world. Our machines have freed us from drudgery. They have given us more leisure time, but along with all of that, we have accepted a very strange theory, and that theory is that we are not dependent upon one another. Each individual and each family wants to be independent.

We need a new citizenship service. During the war we did have a fine glow of achievement which held us closely together. We need a new inspiration for citizenship that will help us to beat off this terrible feeling of individual helplessness that is bearing down upon us. The temptation to escape from our immediate responsibilities, to seek our own personal oblivion, is the thing which I think is most important for us to fight because, no matter how these fears continue to assail us, we are not going to be able to do anything about the world situation until we confront this epidemic of fear.

Frankly, that is why I am here. It is because I believe that this Recreation Congress, and the leaders who are here, can actually do something to help maintain a united, free, happy America in a world that is poverty stricken and fear-ridden in spirit. I believe that we can have a community-wide constructive program of recreation in this country for all ages, all cultural and racial groups.

You will forgive me, I hope, if I speak in an imperative mood. We would certainly not attempt to go into a war without planning a recreation pro-

gram for the people who must fight the battles of that war. Here we are, perhaps in the bitterest kind of warfare, the cold war, which must be fought with intellectual weapons, and we are letting down on the kind of recreation program which these citizen warriors need.

I am going to risk what all amateurs risk when they talk to professionals. I am going to make a few suggestions. I do not claim, remember, to be anything more than an observer of the community in which you work, a representative, in fact, of the women in that community. I am an observer of the worried, tense, anxious women whose letters cross my desk by the hundreds; women who feel that something must be done, but who don't know what that something is, nor how to go about it.

I believe that these women are a great bulwark of American community strength, and I am going to suggest that you use their hands where more hands are needed, their influence where their influence is going to count. I am going to ask you to post, figuratively, a "help wanted" sign—"women partners for recreation leadership."

In offering that partnership, I want to warn you—don't underestimate their power! No community is stronger than the leadership of its women. No nation, no project ever becomes firmly established without their support. This partnership idea is a business proposition and it shouldn't be entered into lightly.

First of all, I want you to get acquainted with the women in your community. Women are no longer a minority group statistically. True, you are still treating them as a minority group. There are, however, more women in this country than men and, very important for all of us who are trying to get support for community programs to remember, they control more than half of the wealth of the country, and they pay more than half of the taxes.

The entire women's movement, the committees for group action, the women's clubs, all spring from the demand that women have made to have a hand in educational improvements, economic opportunities, and political participation. Women have worked for schools, churches, gardens, hospitals, homes, parks, and now they want a larger



share in the community housekeeping.

That is a logical extension of woman's concern for home and family life. But along with that great movement, that great desire to expand the home into the community, something else has been happening, too, and this is the strange thing. It is a sort of contradiction because, actually, men and women, who in the pioneer homes shared all of these responsibilities, now have ceased to share responsibilities in the home or in the community. Each does his job separately, the man outside the home and the woman in it.

In too many cases there isn't a common meeting ground, even in families with children. Father comes home in the evening. He grabs his easy chair and opens the newspaper. He says, "After all, I work hard all day and why should I get mixed up in this recreation business and go to meetings and pay more taxes? I am just not going to bother about that."

More and more women in this country, however, are waking up to the fact that it is no longer safe to do that. It is no longer safe to be a good mother but an indifferent citizen. It is no longer safe to "let George do it," no matter how broad his shoulders or how good he is at supplying the mansion and the mink and the bacon. It is no longer safe to be a good teacher, a good secretary, a good recreation worker, a good doctor—and an indifferent citizen.

There is no question that our communities have suffered because men and women have had all too little part in their workings. Boss-ridden, overtaxed towns, without adequate health, educational and recreation facilities, are the result.

The pattern of community life is changing all over the world. More and more women are working outside the home. Increased numbers of American women are going into outside jobs because they need the money. In war-torn countries they are still working under government order in the mills, in the factories, in the offices and in the shops. Added to home responsibilities, the average woman is taking on heavier duties all the time.

In this country, seventeen million women are working outside their own homes. This means that thirty-one percent of all the women over sixteen years of age are in the active labor force, and here is an amazing sociological fact—over forty-six percent of these women are married, sixteen percent are widowed, and only thirty-eight percent are single. For the first time in our history, there are more married women working than single women.

Another sociological fact—over half of these

women who are working are over thirty-five. That is, we have more married women and more older women working than ever before, and we have to make provision for recreation to meet the demands of this new kind of life which American women are undertaking.

And there is another factor that I want you to think about. With the help of modern medicine, nutrition, psychology, labor-saving devices, and I think a little bit of recreation, the woman today, who is forty, has an added twenty-four and a half years of life expectancy. Her life span has been increased.



Consider then that there are fifteen million women in this country over forty, who have another twenty-five to thirty-five years ahead of them. They are no longer tied down with family duties. In general, they have maturity, experience and education to fit them for community service. Why aren't we using them?

Why, by 1970, twenty-one percent of the people, of the whole population, will be over fifty-five years of age. Are we getting ready to take care of the vastly increased numbers of people in our population who are going to be in the elder age brackets? I think that our problem children of tomorrow are not going to be the teen-agers, but the elder-agers.

It seems to me now that these people, particularly this mature group, might be a very important group in bridging what John Gunther calls the "gap"—(by the way, I should like to recommend his book, "Inside U.S.A." to recreation leaders because he gave great attention to the recreation facilities in the communities that he visited)—between the sound and the generous social ideals that we have and inadequate performance, between basic good will in citizens and their lack of concrete know-how, between what we believe in and what we actually do."

Certainly we cannot wait for the leadership to come from twenty-one million citizens, now ages one to six. These are the war babies who are going to crowd our schools, our playgrounds, our beaches and our parks. Just keep in mind the "baby bulge" that is going to come into our com-



munity life when they are a little older.

And we are not doing anything about it! Certainly we are not going to be able to get the leadership from the young parents who are busy with their children. Fathers must catch up with education and job experience, interrupted by war. We must look to the other groups to help us out.

There are three groups to whom I want to call your attention specifically. First, we have the housewife and the mother. Now, actually, she has little time to spare, but she will find time if the program involves her own children. I will cite an example in the Detroit program—the Tot Lots. The mothers' clubs, in some of the districts with the greatest need for recreation, organized mothers' groups to help with the playgrounds. They did not replace paid workers; they hadn't wanted to do that. These mothers and parents are being used very successfully in family camp programs. Family camps are organized so that family groups themselves can have vacations together.

There is another group which can be brought into the community picture. There is grandmother—and, remember, we have to study grandmother because we are all going to be mature workers, someday, ourselves. The elderly citizen is one of the great challenges of our period. Superior are programs such as that of the Philadelphia Recreation Association. With the help of forty organizations, the Association is able to reach 2,000 elderly citizens. Forty organizations help, two

thousand people are reached! What is the budget? It's \$5,000 a year for salary and running expenses. Isn't that a magnificent thing? That shows what we can get in this sort of community partnership.

And of the greatest importance will be the women leaders from groups, from business, from industry and from professions, who will gladly serve as interpreters of this program to the community. Starting in their own particular groups, you can often persuade them into action on your behalf. As you well know, a woman's club with a cause is one of the most powerful groups in any community. And when several such groups band together, pooling their interests to back the same cause—well, it's the exceptional board of aldermen, mayor, governor or chamber of commerce who remains inattentive to what they have to say. "Never underestimate the power of a woman."

Indeed, the volunteer's work often carries more weight in the community than the professional's since, in this skeptical world, there are those who still believe that the professional's opinion may be biased on the side of wanting to hold on to his job. It is not going to be easy. Working with community volunteers will be work for you, too. You will need patience and a special spiritual aptitude, a friendliness that will make the volunteer feel wanted and welcome. It is indeed this precious combination of the humane and professional, of the social and spiritual, which needs to be added to recreation work today.

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## On Recruiting Volunteers

**O**FTEN A CASUAL conversation with a visitor can create such a favorable impression for your community center, playground or program that, almost before you know it, another volunteer has joined. The personal approach, if sincere and enthusiastic, is invaluable and can be utilized at all times.

The following are suggestions for more formal methods of recruiting through the use of:

1. Local newspapers with editorials, feature stories, or general news items concerning a need for volunteers. Be sure that any recruiting article states clearly the jobs available and the qualifications necessary for each. Emphasize some of the important and interesting things volunteers are

doing in recreation work to give prospective volunteers the feeling that they might miss something if they do not respond.

2. Radio by dramatization, interviews with volunteers on the job, spot announcements, or special SOS calls for volunteers.

3. Slides or screen announcements at movies.

4. Distribution of printed materials, flyers and brochures.

5. Posters used in stations, stores, buses, churches, housing developments, schools.

6. Talks before community groups.

7. Word-of-mouth interpretation in daily contacts, through and from your own participants.

# Dorothy C. Enderis

## Retires

HOWARD BRAUCHER

**I**N 1912 AN attractive young woman school-teacher started helping with the city recreation centers of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

She did not say to herself, "Go to it, now—I will build myself up until I am as highly regarded and as influential as the mayor of the city or the governor of the state."

She is not that kind of person. She devoted herself to her job. Yet many came to say that, as far as the lives of people were considered, she could not have been more influential in any other position. She is herself a rare comrade; she really likes people. She is always a smiling, happy person who appears to carry heavy responsibility easily.

She has thought of music, art, literature, the preservation of the best in the cultures of the national groups, as helping "to make a person companionable to himself. It is when a person is not companionable to himself that he gets into trouble."

Soon, because of all she was doing, Dorothy Enderis was in demand for important addresses before large national gatherings, was sought after for many important tasks, but she stuck fairly close to her own job and her own city. She did find time to be active in church and Sunday school. However, delegations from far and near came to her—if she could not go to them—to ask her questions, to see for themselves just what was taking place. Word went out from the office of the National Recreation Association to Africa, to Asia, to South America, as well as to various parts of Europe, regarding her program. An entire issue of *RECREATION* magazine was devoted to the Milwaukee recreation centers. She became known throughout the world because she had demonstrated what a city can do to help its citizens lead happy lives; what a wise, able, energetic recreation executive can accomplish.

In Milwaukee, in the year 1912, when Dorothy Enderis was still a teacher, many of the people thought recreation was a mere luxury. When schools closed at three-thirty children were shooed from the school grounds, and those who sneaked back to play were reported to the principal for loitering.

In 1920, when Miss Enderis became head of the



recreation department, Milwaukee had six social centers and fourteen playgrounds. Now Milwaukee is known everywhere for its philosophy of the lighted schoolhouse, keeping the school buildings open after school hours for the leisure moments that make a life. The city now has thirty-five social centers and sixty-two playgrounds.

The *Milwaukee Journal*, in writing of Dorothy Enderis, told of how, in the depression of the thirties, when there were so many unemployed and idle, a special center was opened which proved a haven for unemployed men. There were lectures, music, chess and other games. A cobbling corner and a tailoring corner were installed where the men could have their shoes and clothes repaired.

The *Milwaukee Journal* continued:

"No one will ever know of the thousands of persons to whom Miss Enderis has been a friend outside of her activities. She has been at the side of a father or mother who lost a loved one; she has been at christenings and weddings. Many a time, outside her office in the school administration building, she has sat down with someone who had been waiting for her, someone distressed who was restored to peace just by the gentle press of her hand."

We may well pause to think of the school superintendents, school boards and the citizens at large who have been so generous and constant in their support of this woman who has been so loyal to them. Milwaukee citizens have a place in their



Dear Dorothy Enderis:

In the story yesterday of your retirement, we gave your age as eighty-two. We are very sorry. You are only sixty-eight. Gracious as always, you said it didn't matter. Whatever the number of years, we are surprised, for Dorothy Enderis has no age. Few people accomplished as much as you have in one lifetime; still fewer, at any age, are so vitally young.

—*Milwaukee Sentinel.*

support of abundant living comparable to that of Athenian citizens in the Age of Pericles and the group in England in the Elizabethan-Shakespearean era.

The National Recreation School, a graduate professional school in New York City, carried on under the auspices of the National Recreation Association, for a period of years always called upon Miss Enderis to help in the training of recreation executives each year, and she was one of the most appreciated teachers because she had so much experience to share.

She also helped with the training of executives by receiving, in certain years, as many as four apprentice fellows sent to her by the National Recreation Association to learn by doing under her leadership. Certain of these apprentices now hold very important positions in the recreation movement.

Dorothy Enderis is one of the first, if not the first, to receive an honorary degree of Doctor of Recreation. She was awarded this degree in 1944 by Carroll College, Waukesha, Wisconsin. At another time Miss Enderis received the distinguished service medal of the Cosmopolitan Club of Milwaukee, awarded to the individual performing service most beneficial to the community, and also the honorary degree of Master of Arts conferred by Lawrence College, Appleton, Wisconsin.

On a nationwide radio hook-up she was cited for her contribution to the morale of America. When Frank L. Taylor, publisher of the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, was asked to name the most important influence in keeping the city's juvenile delinquency rate one of the lowest in the United States, without hesitation he named Dorothy Enderis and her exceptional service in providing opportunity for wholesome recreation for young people. The newspapers have generally recognized the important part Miss Enderis' department has played in keeping at a minimum Milwaukee's juvenile delinquency.

It was on September 30, 1948, that Dorothy Enderis retired, after serving thirty-six years in recreation work in Milwaukee, Wisconsin—eight years as assistant to the recreation executive,

Harold O. Berg, and twenty-eight years in charge of the entire program.

Many younger recreation workers want to do what Dorothy Enderis has done, want to work in the same spirit that has characterized her work.

It has seemed to me that it is worthwhile, while Dorothy Enderis is still with us, to pause thus long to think of what her life and work have meant and how she has made her position of recreation executive as outstanding, perhaps, as any position could be made.

What stands out most as one thinks of Dorothy Enderis and her thirty-six years in recreation is what she herself says: "I have had an awfully good time at my job."

## Just How Did Milwaukee Start Its Recreation System?

IT MAY NOT be out of place here to try to give an answer to this question which has frequently been asked. In 1911 the Child Welfare Commission of Milwaukee and the Board of School Directors united in writing to the National Recreation Association to ask that the Association make a study of Milwaukee and work out a plan for tax supported recreation. At that time there were no funds available to pay for this service. Later it became the general practice for communities, desiring this kind of very special help, to raise money in advance to meet the cost; but at that time, since no funds were available, the Association met the cost of several thousand dollars from its general funds and then asked Milwaukee citizens in succeeding years to contribute to make it possible to give the same kind of help to other cities.

Rowland Haynes, who has just retired as president of the University of Omaha and has had a long and distinguished career in education and in other community work, was then a field secretary of the National Recreation Association. He was called upon to make the study and to give the other help requested. Local leaders expressed great appreciation of what was done by Rowland Haynes during the months he worked in Milwaukee, helping to lay the foundations for a recreation system.

Among the local leaders particularly interested were H. H. Jacobs, of University Settlement; Mrs. Charles W. Norris; Wilbur Phillips, Secretary of the Child Welfare Commission; Mayor Seidel; Rev. Frederick Edwards; and Smith Y. Hughes, Superintendent, Boys' Busy Life Club.



Memorial Field and Stadium

## *The Story of American Cities in Recreation*

## Part III

# MOUNT VERNON, NEW YORK

R. Walter Cammack

UNIQUE AMONG COMMUNITIES across the nation, Mount Vernon, New York, is a little big city. With 18,000 people crowded into *each one* of our four and one-fifth square miles of area (total population, 76,000) and completely hemmed in by two cities and two villages, making expansion impossible, Mount Vernon has grown to be one of the most densely populated cities in the United States.

A century ago this area was fallow land; until, in 1850, a group of men from New York City, in search of more room to raise their families, enjoy better health and higher standards of living, went north to the outskirts of the city, built their homes and found happiness in hearing their children shout across the open spaces.

But so many others had the same idea that the wide open spaces gradually vanished.

"God made the country for His children to enjoy. Man made the city and forgot the children."

In Mount Vernon, however, the women remembered—and did something about it.

### Recreation Commission

In 1909, ten women, who were members of both the Westchester Woman's Club and the League of Women Voters, gave one hundred dollars to finance the first supervised summer playground. This demonstration aroused the interest and support of the Board of Education and later resulted in the appointment, by the Board of Aldermen, of a Recreation Committee of fifty, who carried on until the first World War.

After a campaign in which social, political and religious organizations rallied to the support of the movement, the voters of the city decided, by referendum on November 24, 1924, that a minimum of \$20,000 should be spent annually by the city for public recreation.

Guided by the National Recreation Association and the Westchester County Recreation Commission, an amendment was added to the city charter making the Recreation Commission a component part of the city government.

"Such Commission shall consist of five members to be appointed by the Mayor. . . . Such Commission shall have, to the exclusion of all other committees and commissions on playgrounds and public recreation in the City of Mount Vernon, the organization and control of all recreational activities."

The Commission, appointed to serve beginning January 1, 1925, has the distinction of being the first one in the State of New York to take advantage of the state referendum law on recreation which had then been passed.

### Achievement by Cooperation

Since 1945, although our population has increased fifty percent, our recreation budget has increased, in the same time, over three hundred percent (from \$20,000 to \$86,000). Still better, participation in our city-wide recreation program has multiplied more than ten times.

This has resulted largely because of the unusually cooperative working relationship existing between our Recreation Commission, the city administration, the Board of Education, civic clubs, private social agencies and fraternal organizations.

These fine public relations, which have enabled us to attain these achievements, did not just happen. They were earned, built up by careful attention to small details as well as to major projects. We treat every citizen request by telephone, by letter, or by personal visit; every suggestion or criticism is a real opportunity to maintain good public relations. Our office staff, supervisors, maintenance workers, all use such occasions to cement further the fine cooperative spirit between citizens and the department. This has paid hand-

some dividends in growth, support and service.

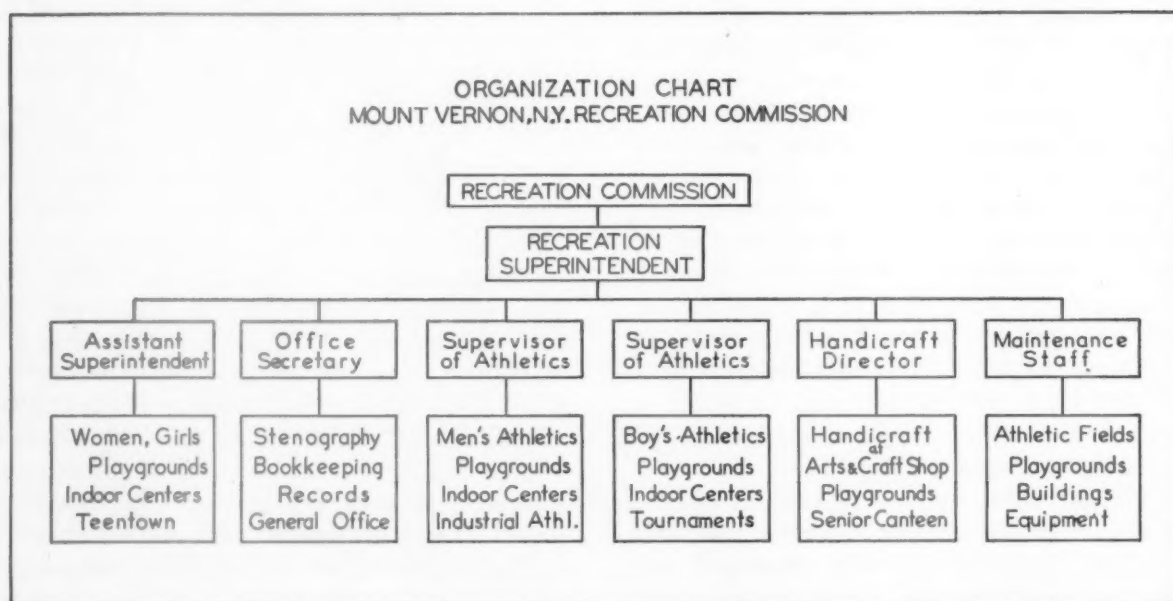
In January 1946, Mayor William Hart Hussey, in his annual message to the Common Council, devoted three-fourths of the lineage to *curtailment* of city expenditures, and the balance of the message to the need for *expansion* of playgrounds and recreation facilities.

His proposal to set aside new areas for playgrounds, and his strong backing of the \$100,000 program for the construction of new, and improvement of existing, playgrounds, made Mount Vernon the first city in this part of the country to complete a postwar recreation project. Although this required the approval of the Common Council on nine different contracts, not a single request of the Recreation Commission was rejected.

Realizing that the youth of our community are our most precious possessions, city officials have come to recognize the very practical fact that more and better attention to the recreation department, to *more* recreation for *more* children, results in commendation and support for the administration from the children's parents.

### Staff

The year-round administrative and supervisory staff consists of the superintendent, assistant superintendent, secretary, two supervisors of athletics and a handicrafts instructor. The efficiency and skill with which the department is functioning is indicated by the fact that it is now conducting a program with an annual attendance ten times as large as that in 1929, when the same number of staff members were employed. Playground directors and evening center leaders are all employed on a part-time basis, which necessitates constant







Skating on private property "loaned" to Commission. Election booth loaned by City Clerk for shelter.



Art group in action. Popular arts and crafts shop is housed in building owned by Board of Education.

recruiting and training, but effects a material saving in salaries.

Maintenance staff members—consisting of six full-time and four part-time workers—take care of the athletic fields, tennis courts, ball diamonds, stadium, playgrounds, buildings and facilities for winter sports. Their interest and ability in keeping these facilities in first class condition have been invaluable.

### Budget

A summary of the budget for 1948 is as follows:

Yearly salaries .....	\$20,570.
Part-time salaries .....	29,501.
Wages—maintenance .....	20,100.
Office expense and mileage.....	1,400.
Repairs and renewals of equipment.....	6,400.
Recreation features .....	560.
Heat and light—Memorial Field.....	550.
Materials and supplies—Memorial Field.....	900.
Injury expense .....	100.
Coasting .....	750.
Teen Town .....	5,938.

Total.....\$86,769.

Since 1946, Mount Vernon has been receiving reimbursement toward one-half the cost of new or expanded recreation activities or facilities from the New York State Youth Commission, to the extent of \$5,000 a year.

### Areas and Facilities

With a play area now within one-quarter mile of the home of over ninety percent of the children of the city, Mount Vernon is recreationally unique and is close to the goal and dream of every recreation department. School buildings used for indoor recreation programs are almost equally accessible.

"I like to have my children go to the playground now," said a mother. "Before you had the new surface, the children came home so dirty from the

dust and cinders that I had to stop them from going."

This must have expressed the attitude of many mothers because, at one playground, after it was resurfaced and fully equipped, attendance made the amazing jump from 6,000 the previous year to 105,000 the year after the improvements were completed.

Attendance at other improved grounds increased from five hundred to eleven hundred percent, which emphasized to the Commission that, in order to make leadership and service most effective and efficient, they must be supported by adequate facilities.

Of the twenty-one *playgrounds*, operated by the Recreation Commission, eleven are city-owned and ten are school playgrounds. The city grounds have recently had shelters erected and have been surfaced with black-top. All are fenced and completely equipped with the usual play apparatus.

Our three *athletic fields*, with an average of a little over eleven acres in each field, cover more area than the total of twenty-eight acres in the city parks. The facilities on the fields consist of eleven diamonds for baseball and softball, fourteen tennis courts, eight handball courts, three football fields, an archery range, two field houses; also a \$200,000 stadium seating 5,000, built in 1931 at Memorial Field.

Housed in a separate building, owned by the Board of Education, is the *arts and crafts shop*, equipped with work tables, tools for wood work, metal work, etching, leathercraft, looms for weaving, easels for drawing and painting, a lathe, jig saws and so on.

*Teen Town* is located in a downtown city-owned building, turned over to the Recreation Commission by the Common Council. Following renovation by the teen-agers, the high school cartoonists

splashed likenesses of unusually acrobatic jitter-bugs on the walls. They unquestionably give life and color to the place.

### Use of School Buildings

The Board of Education holds the doors of the school buildings wide open for our use. We have heard recreation workers say that the superintendents of schools in their cities are "against the use of schools for recreation." We believe that, in most cases, this is inadvertently a misquotation. What the superintendent most likely was against, and justifiably so, was not the *use* of the schools but the *misuse* of school property and facilities. He was against broken windows, broken lights, broken chairs, broken promises. He was probably very much against the absence of responsible recreation supervision.

It is the policy of our department, when we take over the use of any school facility, also to take over the complete responsibility that goes with such use. We look after school property as if it were our own; we repair damages promptly, insist upon competent and adequate supervision and, in return, receive the full cooperation of the school authorities.

During the winter season we conduct an average of fifty-two sessions a week in school buildings. The Board of Education makes no charge to the Recreation Commission for heat, light or janitor service.

### Program

WINTER—Ninety basketball teams in seven leagues, badminton, dances, arts and crafts, choral society, drama groups, boys' and girls' afternoon and evening gym groups, bowling, ice skating, coasting and so forth. Co-recreation groups, conducted Friday evenings in the junior high schools, have been particularly appealing to the younger teen-agers.

SPRING—One hundred and thirty-five baseball and softball teams in twelve junior and senior leagues, twelve after-school playgrounds, tennis, archery, handball, and so forth. Andy Karl and Ralph Branca, major league baseball pitchers, are former members of our junior and senior baseball leagues.

SUMMER—Twenty-one summer playgrounds, open nine a.m. to five p.m., six p.m. to eight-thirty p.m., with doll shows, movies, play days, showers, athletics, picnics and all the other usual playground activities; summer band and orchestra school, swimming lessons, swimming championships, tennis tournaments, baseball and softball leagues.

Our Junior All-Star team won the New York State Junior Baseball Championship this year.

FALL—Twelve after-school playgrounds, final playoffs of baseball and softball leagues, high school and semi-pro football, football kicking contest. Frank Carideo, all-American and outstanding football player at Notre Dame, was a product of our playgrounds and football fields.

YEAR-ROUND—*Arts and Crafts*—Special classes in painting, sewing, first aid, motion picture photography, and such are supplemented by individual instruction in various arts and crafts projects. Art exhibitions are held and Girl Scout leaders receive crafts instruction.

*Senior Canteen*—Limited to those over sixty-five years of age, this group of fifty-two "seniors" meets weekly at the arts and crafts shop to "reminisce," play cards and have tea.

*Teen Town*—Now nearly four years old, this club, with three hundred teen-age members, runs merrily along to the tunes of the juke box, the click of ping pong and billiard balls, and with the consumption of astounding quantities of soft drinks and ice cream from the snack bar.

*Industrial and Commercial Athletic Association*—Organized in 1930, the teams are enthusiastic about their bowling, softball and basketball leagues and their annual awards banquet.

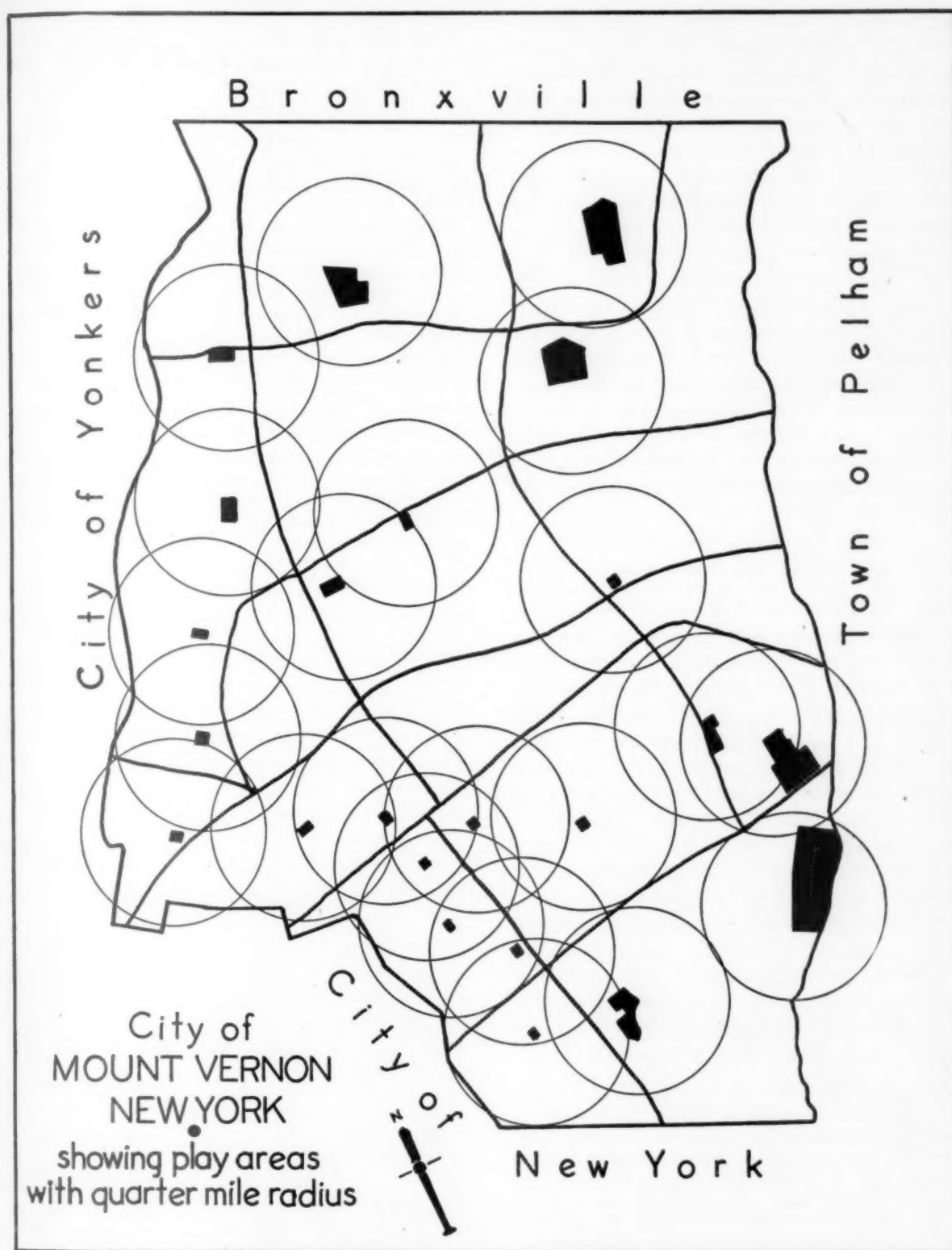
### Community Team Work

In addition to the splendid working relationship between the Recreation Commission and the Board of Education, there are numerous other instances of community team work.

The Commission assisted in the establishment of the Girls' Club, which became a member of the Council of Social Agencies. The Elks' Club sponsors our midget baseball league of thirty-two teams, our pee wee basketball league and marble tournament; provides trophies and raises money for special activities. We schedule the use of school buildings for the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boys' Club, Girls' Club and other recreation programs. The Lions Club bought property and donated it for a city playground; they sponsor our annual swimming meets and baseball clinics. The Kiwanis Club sponsors our junior baseball league and junior tennis tournament. The Rotary Club recently conducted a survey of the recreation interests of the school children of the city. The Exchange Club is backing the model airplane flying group.

Co-sponsored by the Westchester County Recreation Commission, we have conducted movies, concerts, training institutes, softball tournaments,





choral societies and a football clinic. The high school, PTA's and the Council of Social Agencies aided in the organization of Teen Town, and its club rooms are used by various agencies and groups for meetings and social events. Teen Town has raised funds from its own members for the

Community Chest, March of Dimes, Red Cross, Brotherhood Week and the Hospital Drive. The Police, D.P.W., and other city departments are our indispensable allies. The West Side Improvement Association helped establish two new playgrounds. The Commission provides ball fields for

the Y.M.C.A., Church Softball League and the Firemen's Softball League. The Mount Vernon Chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women organized the Senior Canteen and provides hostesses and refreshments each week. In cooperation with the Fire Department and the Westchester County Children's Association, we collect hundreds of toys to be repaired and distributed to indigent children at Christmas time.

The Westchester County Park Commission leases county-owned property to the city for two of our playgrounds and part of one of our athletic fields, and allows us the use of their pool for our swimming lessons and meets. Our local newspaper, *The Daily Argus*, is always most generous in its publicity of our activities. The League of Women Voters and the Westchester Woman's Club—the founders of the Recreation Commission—maintain an active interest in our program and progress.

### Letters to the Commission

The "Senior Canteen," Mount Vernon's recreation center for the older generation only, was received with such enthusiasm by the older folks of the city that, at their request, we are planning to be open two afternoons a week this year. Aside from the many expressions of appreciation which the hostesses have personally received from canteeners, the oldest member—ninety-seven years young—wrote a poem praising the canteen, and a number of the folks signed a letter expressing their thanks. At last, the older generation have a place of their own where they may gather in a friendly atmosphere for the companionship they crave.

What other everyday, average citizens think of recreation service in Mount Vernon is illustrated by the following letters which are typical of many received by the Recreation Commission:

A mother: "For some time now my baby daughter and I have been enjoying the facilities of the Grove Street playground, and I want to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the Commission and its efficient staff. It is a blessing to have somewhere to take or send your child, where she will have fun and yet be safe."  
Ruth Mangarello

A mother: "I was thrilled to see baby swings and a sandbox installed for my three year old son. Along with the tiny tot area came the art craft and weekly entertainment show that kept my twelve year old daughter contented. Lo and behold! before my very eyes a softball area for my fourteen year old son. 'Three children,' I said, 'and all of them enjoying what once had been a vacant lot.' I'm putting my feelings in writing to you people who have helped me and

other mothers to have an enjoyable summer with happy children to put to bed every night, praying for sunshine in the morning for another day at the playground."  
Mrs. A. Pezzino

A mother: "This note is to inform you of the excellent services rendered by Miss Rosemarie Tuccillo and Mr. Alan Bonaparte as recreation leaders at the Lorraine Avenue playground. The children were very happy there and we would appreciate the return of these leaders next year. The playground was made a special delight because of Miss Tuccillo's special talents, plus her untiring efforts and hours spent at the playground beyond the actual time required. My husband commented that the playground was run as a private day camp. In my conversations with the parents at the playground I found that they wholeheartedly agree with me."  
Mrs. M. D. Moglen.

A child: "I hope that you and the rest of the Recreation Commission staff will continue to carry on your excellent supervision of the playgrounds, not only next year, but in the years to come. If the children all over Mount Vernon have had as much fun at their playgrounds as we have had in ours, all I can say is—congratulations—you did a splendid job."

Louise Barbara Spears

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AS EARLY AS 1915, Francis R. North, field secretary of the National Recreation Association, made a survey of the recreation needs of Mount Vernon. As a result of the survey, a recreation commission was appointed and the work showed a steady growth until World War I, when the commission was abolished. For a number of years after that, the work was carried on under the school board. In 1924, a favorable referendum vote was secured on the establishment of a recreation system under the commission, and the voters also approved a minimum yearly budget for recreation of \$20,000. The National Recreation Association field worker actively assisted the local League of Women Voters in the campaign—Ed.

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## Drama\*

By William W. Pratt

THE CAST: Two charmers in their youth.

THE TIME: Most any day.

THE SCENE OF ACTION: Drugstore booth,  
With music canned and gay.

THE PLOT: A brief refreshing pause  
Of juniors minus poise.

THE PROPS: Two frosted drinks, with straws.

THE CONVERSATION: Boys.

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# Hollywood Night

*As It Occurs at the Kenny Institute . . .*

Fern Allen Schwankl

"THERE'S GOING TO be a party!" "What shall I wear?" "What are we going to do?" "Do you think I could look like Myrna Loy?" "Where will we get the costumes?"

This sounds just like any group of children anyplace, doesn't it? It could be, but these are the reactions of the polio victims, in the Elizabeth Kenny Institute in Minneapolis, when the Recreation Director says, "Let's have a Hollywood party, shall we?" For the children are not merely handicapped, hospital patients, nor physically deficient humans. They are normal individuals with the same needs, desires and dreams of those who walk and run.



A little lipstick, a gay gown and an excited heart were the ingredients little Susan took to the party.

And so the plans go forward. Costumes are hunted up and fitted, hair is washed and curled, stunts are planned and rehearsed, posters are put up and invitations extended. For a few days the party fever runs high. This is the first important phase of the celebration: *the planning and anticipation.*

Finally the long awaited night arrives and the suppers are put away hurriedly (even the hospital employees are moving more swiftly in their excitement!). From one ward comes excited last-minute demands for lipstick and earrings, from another the noises of a final rehearsal; and from the largest ward, the sound of the moving of beds, hanging of the stage background. A transformation is taking place—from sterile hospital plainness to festive clutter. The lights go up, the piano comes rumbling in, the microphone is put in place. Through all these preparations, bright eyes shine from the beds, and excited voices call out questions, for tonight is the night of our party!

With the zero hour (which in a hospital must come at 6:30 p. m.) a parade of wheelchairs, litters, and straight chairs bring the patient-guests into the largest ward. Can these be the same children who wear loin cloths while they lie under hot packs all day? They are just as dressed up as any children ready for a party. This is how they should look, for they are normal children, happy with the joy and fun of being and doing.

The master of ceremonies starts the night's entertainment—and every child gets into an act. It is important that each participate, for every child must feel that he is and will be vital and necessary. To each must come the satisfaction of giving of himself for the fun of all. This means a little extra pushing by those with more sturdy arms and legs, but no one minds at all for it's everybody's

party! After the patients have performed, they are entertained by two outside acts. These contribute to the excitement, give new interest, and add the final touch of professionalism. The party breaks up with a song by everyone, and then it's time for refreshments.

This is a Hollywood party, and glamor is the keyword. The volunteer helpers wear formals and dress suits. The simulated champagne (ginger ale plus imagination) is served from an electrically lighted punch bowl. While the guests relax happily with cookies and punch, the staff and helpers start the clean-up. Children's wards must be clear and quiet for early hospital bedtimes.

Yet, even though the lights go out on time, if you listen carefully you can hear small girl giggles or whispered comments. "Say, Mary, didn't you think that Katie looked beautiful tonight?" "I'd like to do imitations as well as that guy from the university did!" "Tomorrow we can play with the prizes we won!" Then come the dreams of happy children who have forgotten, for a moment, the terrible fear of useless hands or frail legs. Tonight they are only children who have been to a party.

Another important part of such an event is the *remembering*. For several days party talk remains in the hospital conversations. The special surprise, of Hollywood night, was a colored movie taken during the party and shown later during one of the movie hours. Reminders such as this keep memory active a bit longer.

The task of giving a party for an entire floor of patients, whose ages vary from six to forty-five (and whose physical conditions vary as widely), is not an easy one, but it is a wonderful job! It means drawing on all the ingenuity of the workers and the patients. It means collecting unflinchingly from hospital and community resources. It means additional hours to plan and prepare, extra legs to secure supplies and materials, added efforts to sustain group teamwork from every hospital worker and member of the volunteer staff. Add to these a large amount of imagination and a good sense of humor, and the job of giving a hospital party is not too hard after all.

It is difficult to devise a motivating theme—something to give the party both timeliness and purpose. Our Hollywood idea evolved during a meeting of volunteer recreation workers. As it caught on, everyone contributed to the plans for program and decorations. Dreaming up stunts which patients can enact often poses a real problem. The stunts must be suitable for the maturity level of the actors, and simultaneously prove good fun for the on-lookers. But the children are always

helpful with the planning and know what they would like to do. Also, the family feeling within a hospital has saved many a poor stunt from falling completely flat.

Hospital parties are impossible unless one has the cooperation of the hospital staff and a good dependable volunteer staff. A large portion of the credit for a successful evening goes to our corps of approximately twenty able volunteer workers, who give their own time to help the children have fun. For the Hollywood party, each worker was assigned a definite job and responsibility. For example: two women helped the younger girls plan their stunt, write the songs and speeches, rehearse and fit the costumes, helped the girls dress, pushed the young actresses on the stage and off again. Another volunteer conceived the idea of making corsages for prizes and prepared them as her share of the work. This type of assistance makes our entire recreation program possible.

As we have four wards on the second floor of the Institute, we prepared four separate acts. Each ward practiced its act in secret, in order that the program would be a surprise for the other patients. Members of our girls' ward (ages nine through fourteen) held a beauty contest for aspiring starlets. Girls of this age level love to dress up in older girls' clothes, and proved to be sensational in their formals and earrings. Each girl prepared a "campaign speech" aimed at impressing the beauty judges. A sample of the speeches:

"I'm Miss Minneapolis,  
My boy friend's a Swede,  
But for a Hollywood Oscar  
I'd trade him, indeed."

Of course, the beauty contest judges could arrive at no decision when faced with such beguiling



Three older boys came as the Marx brothers. Groucho is helped with his mustache by recreation volunteer.



contestants. Each girl received a corsage as well as a very special beauty title, such as "Miss Glamorous of 1948."

Our older boys (ages fourteen to forty-five) put on a Marx Brothers act. All that was needed for supplies came from a magic store. Wigs, false noses and eyes, a very "corny" joke book, squirt gun, and other props insured success. Who (age notwithstanding) can resist the joys of a water squirt gun?

The older girls (ages fourteen years to thirty-three) dressed to impersonate movie stars in their more prominent roles. We planned this act for audience participation. It was modeled after the radio program which gives clues from which contestants make deductions. Our impersonations were too good, for we ended up holding most of the prizes that we had planned to give away for wrong guesses!

The children from the smaller boys' ward planned their own cowboy act. They divided into two teams, made cowboy hats and paper guitars. They practiced campfire songs for a contest. Before the party, we arranged a human applause meter which was to help indicate the winner, but since such a device could not operate under the tremendous ovations received by our contestants, it broke down and everyone received prizes.

The outside entertainers were impersonators of famous people. A phonograph and piano provided the necessary accompaniment and background music. Although we would have liked an orchestra or band for the festivities, our limited space and funds restricted our ambitions.

Special parties are one of the high points of our hospital recreation program. We plan to have a general get-together party at least once a month,

if the hospital census permits. Even when we are overcrowded, or some special condition prohibits a large gathering, we try to provide social mixers so that ward partitions and hospital walls will not seem too restraining.

Our entire recreation program has been based on the premise that all children are entitled to a normal happy childhood, whether victims of a disease or not. We must go even further, for we must try by every means to substitute and compensate for the regular active life these children are missing. Some of our patients must remain here for a period of more than two years. During this time, they are growing and developing, and must have necessary outlets for the expression of their personalities.

As nearly as possible, we strive to keep all our patients' activities as every-day-like as possible. This often seems impossible when faced with physically impaired children and hospital restrictions. Yet the Hollywood party is an example of what is really possible under these conditions.

Our recreation program is too limited by space, facilities, and help to be really as effective as we would like. We would want a situation where each child would have the unlimited opportunities which his individual personality requires.

Hospital hours can seem like days, the days themselves like weeks. It is often a time when a patient becomes changed emotionally and spiritually. In the hospital, a recreation program should be more than something to help "pass time." It should be instrumental in helping to build characters and personalities which will insure happier, and more useful lives for those whom illness and disease have cut off from a normal life.



At party's end Susan and Mary were among many who whispered remembrances far into the night.

"The value of play as a factor in the educational and social development of children has received marked recognition during recent years. The nursery schools and recreational centers in the large cities are directed toward this end. In our hospital (Milwaukee Children's Hospital), not only the occupational therapy department, but the entire staff of doctors, nurses, and X-ray and laboratory technicians are imbued with the psychology of play. Besides the playrooms on each floor, there is play material available for the patients in the admitting rooms and for those waiting for X-rays, laboratory work and operations."—Elsa Dudenhoefer, Director of Occupational Therapy, Milwaukee Children's Hospital.





Each garment is designed and tailored by volunteers who shop for unusual fabrics in city costume houses.

**W**INTER SPORTS ACTIVITIES always are colorful and exciting. We hope, therefore, that the story of "The Largest Small Town Ice Revue in the World," a story of community action and cooperation, may stimulate the imagination of readers and inspire others to similar undertakings, both in professional and non-professional fields.

Escanaba is a small city located on Little Bay de Noc on Lake Michigan, in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The city—according to recent population surveys—has 16,000 inhabitants. It prides itself on a year-round recreation program—in fact, one of the most outstanding in cities of comparable size in the midwest. Its recreation department is one of the established city departments, and most unique in that the city also has a separate department of parks and forestry. When you study the annual budget, approved by the City Council for the amount of \$30,000, almost two dollars per person, you realize that the effects of this program are far-reaching and that it has the support of the entire city. With one director, three full-time workers, and a number of part-time workers and volunteers, a balanced program of activities is made possible. In many instances, it is used as a model for other cities in adjacent areas, many municipal representatives coming to Escanaba to study the recreation techniques that are used and the manner in which activities and special events are staged. The department works effectively in cooperation with its Advisory Recreation Board, city officials, the Board of Education, and local civic organizations.

This story started eleven years ago on one of the outdoor rinks sponsored by the city. At that time, the local recreation department undertook to stage the sort of outdoor winter sports carnival

## ICE VARIETIES OF 1948

usual with recreation departments. The carnival included skating races, the selection and coronation of a winter sports queen, snow and ice sculpturing, and so on. These functions were sponsored by the department in cooperation with the Escanaba Lions Club. During the carnival proper, several skaters appeared who were naturally talented in figure skating. The following year, with the added stimulus of performing before a large group, a few more skaters were inspired and, accordingly, presented a little longer and better exhibition. Six years later, a small ice revue on one of the outdoor rinks proved to be so gratifying, that the following year another show was staged; and this performance served as a stepping stone to the shows which were to come.

During the war, a resulting loss of a number of local skaters was counteracted by an arrangement made between the city and the Upper Peninsula State Fair Board. The recreation department was given permission to use the exhibition building at the State Fair Grounds during the winter season, for a nominal rental fee. It was found that the major portion of the exhibition hall, which was unheated and had a concrete floor, would make an ideal indoor natural skating rink. The recreation director had gone to another city, so the chairman of the figure skating board, Dr. Harold Groos, together with his wife, mustered a handful of local enthusiasts and organized the Escanaba Figure Skating Club, which that year presented the first local indoor show. Without proper lighting, direction of skaters, or the necessary properties, the show was a long way from being an outstanding event.

However, the following season and the seasons to come found each performance better and, in

## A Small Town Community Project



All amateurs, skaters are trained by a staff member, an ex-professional, and practice dancing off-season.

1946, the efforts of the club were aided by the appointment of a more complete figure skating board, together with the addition of a new recreation director. One of the first duties of the board was to secure a professional figure skating instructor; and plans skyrocketed for the first major ice revue, "Circus on Ice." The following year brought the ice revue, "Fairylend Fantasies" and, this year, the "Ice Varieties of 1948—The Largest Small Town Ice Revue in the World." Perhaps the success of this production lies in such facts as:

1. All community organizations cooperate in staging this event—schools, churches, service clubs and the Chamber of Commerce.

2. Over two hundred skaters participating train for over a two-month period for their particular acts. All are amateurs with the exception of the director, who is a member of the department staff. Over three hundred other volunteer workers help in the staging of the production.

3. All the figure skaters are locally trained by a department worker, a former professional ice skater. During the off-season and summer months they continue their ballet and tap dancing instruction in the after-school recreation program.

4. All designing and construction of the properties, staging, and lighting features are worked out by committees of volunteers.

5. All costumes are designed and made by volunteers who go to New York and Chicago, at their own expense, to purchase materials for these costumes from nationally known costume dealers. A total of two months is used for fittings and sewing of the costumes, since each garment is specially tailored for the individual skater—for chorus members as well as soloists.

6. The production is viewed by over 7,000 people and is a non-profit venture, comparing with the best professional shows now on circuits throughout the nation. Other special performances are staged in nearby cities, which rely upon Escanaba for their skating talent. A number of the local skaters have left the city and, with their background of skating, have joined various professional shows in the country.

7. All proceeds of the revue revert to the show itself, to be used for necessary expenses. Features of the last two productions have been the black light numbers in which fluorescent cloth is used for costumes. The recreation department now has close to a thousand costumes in its wardrobe, which are used for dances, festivals, pop concerts, and so forth.

One of the benefits of this activity is that it provides for hundreds of children, as well as for their immediate families and the corps of volunteers, a recreation activity which extends throughout the winter season.

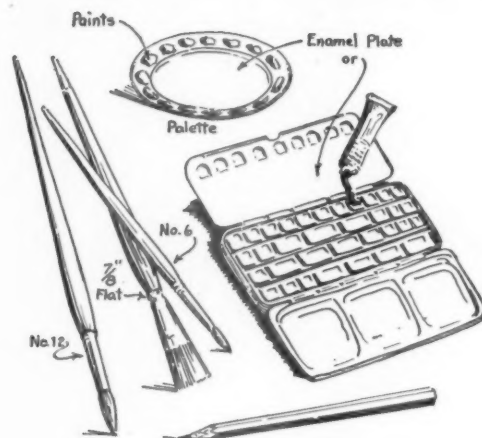


"Outdoor sports, despite their zest and fun, are often neglected even in communities most favorably situated for their enjoyment. Survey the recreation facilities and opportunities for your town and its environs. You may find many not properly utilized, and discover others that have never been thought of before—for example, sites for skating rinks, ski and toboggan hills, snowshoe and hiking trails over hills and through dales."

—Ernst A. Stewart in *The Lion*.

# WATER-COLOR PAINTING IS FUN\*

*Wherein Frank A. Staples, Director of Arts and Crafts for the National Recreation Association, gives practical pointers on learning how to paint.*



**M**ANY PEOPLE WISH that they could paint pictures, but never do anything about it. Some try and become discouraged, usually because of lack of proper encouragement and information. Thus this is written to encourage and inform those who want to paint.

The first thing you need to know is what paints, brushes, paper, pencils and equipment are required.

For paints, get the following water colors in tubes: Alizarin Crimson, Vermilion, Burnt Sienna, Yellow Ocher, Gamboge, Hooker's Green Dark, Cobalt Blue, Ultramarine Blue and Cerulean Blue. Student colors are satisfactory in the beginning; later a more expensive color can be purchased. Eventually, you will want to add the following to the palette: Raw Sienna, Aurora Yellow, Viridian, Emerald Green, New Blue and Peach Black.

For a palette, a white enamel plate is satisfactory, or you can buy a regular water-color box. This box will contain colors in pans. Use these and then squeeze your colors into the empty pans as needed. Do not squeeze too much at a time as water-color paint works best when not too dry.

Now for brushes—you can do nicely at first with the less expensive paints, but from the very beginning good brushes are important. The best red sable brushes should be used, and they can be purchased at any reliable artists' supply store. That is where you will get your paints and paper,

too. In the beginning, you will need two round red sable brushes, a number twelve and a number six; later, add one seven-eighth inch flat red sable brush.

Brushes are your cherished tools and should be carefully cared for. The simplest way to keep them in good condition is to carry them in a case. Be sure it is wide enough so that there is a small space between the brushes, and long enough so that there is extra space above and below the brushes.

Paper is your next consideration. A water-color block is most convenient. However, you can buy your paper in sheets and cut to the size required. When this is done, a piece of heavy cardboard or three-ply wood is used as a back support while painting. Instead of thumb tacks, use elastics to hold the paper in place.

In the beginning, any student water-color paper will do, but later you will want a good grade of handmade paper. The heavier the weight, the better the paper. Thin paper is not very satisfactory. Most of the best papers are imported. Good water-color paper comes in three surface grades: smooth, medium and rough. Medium is recommended for the beginner. Smooth paper is best for very tight and detailed painting. Rough paper is difficult for the beginner. It has its advantages over medium paper when a great deal of white is desired.

The beginner often tends to use paper that is too small in size. A good size is twelve by sixteen. Be sure to paint on the right side if you buy it in separate sheets. If you will hold the large sheet

\*From "Water-color Painting is Fun," prepared for the National Recreation Association by Frank A. Staples. Just published by Whittlesey House, New York and Toronto. \$3.50.

of paper up to the light a water mark, which is the name or trademark of the maker, can be seen. This water mark reads correctly when the right side of the paper is facing you.

As one usually draws the details before painting, a pencil will be needed. Any medium soft lead pencil will do, such as a *B*. Mistakes in drawing are removed with an eraser, art gum being the best. You also will need a pint or quart water container. Try using a glass jar with a screw top. A lightweight folding campstool is useful, though not absolutely necessary. Some prefer to sit on the ground, steps, rocks, and so forth, rather than carry this piece of equipment.

Now you are almost ready to paint. You have yet to choose your subject. Some guidance in making this choice may speed you to success.

If you are not careful, you will be tempted to draw half the world, or as much of it as you can see. Half the world is quite an undertaking for a beginner, so let us go to the other extreme. Our first subject will be mostly sky. Select a scene containing few trees and buildings, with flat ground. Then leave out the trees and buildings, painting only the ground and the sky.



**ACTUAL SCENE**



**FIRST PICTURE—SUBJECT MATTER**  
*Ground and sky values only*

Why do this? Because first we must learn to see the big simple relationship between sky and ground. Then, later, we can add trees and buildings, and the like. When we do attempt this, we will use the same approach—painting only part of a tree or building. In other words, it is best,

after having some success with the big relationship of sky and ground, to make your field of vision a small area. The field of vision is the amount of



**SMALL FIELD OF VISION**



**SMALL FIELD OF VISION**

picture you paint. Later, when we are successful in painting these small-field-of-vision pictures, we can put them together.



**COMBINING SMALL FIELD OF VISION PICTURES**

After you have chosen your subject you must make yourself as comfortable as possible. If you have a campstool, place it firmly on the ground so that it will not rock or tip while you are working. If you are sitting on the ground, choose the most comfortable spot available. Try to arrange your position so that your paper is in shadow. It is very difficult and sometimes impossible to see your colors correctly if sunlight is reflected from your paper. It will be difficult enough with the best of conditions, so avoid any unnecessary handicaps.

Now you are ready to try a sky and ground picture. The pencil drawing is simple. All that is needed is a horizontal line running across your paper at the point where the sky and ground meet. If you do not think about it, you will most likely draw this line through the center of the paper, dividing it into approximately two equal parts. This is not good, for you have given equal importance to both sky and ground. It is much better to give one dominance over the other. Try putting



the line well below the center, giving prominence to the sky. Later try one by reversing this idea, but try the sky one first. Why? Because it is easier to paint sky than ground.

Next, look at the subject with half-closed eyes, so as to eliminate all details. Which seems lighter, the sky or the ground? Usually the sky is lighter. How much difference is there between them? Try to record this difference. It does not matter what colors you use in this first picture. If you get the true general lightness and darkness of the sky and ground, it will look right. For that matter, you could use two shades of green, red or blue (or any color), for the sky is sometimes green, red or blue, and so is the ground. Later you will try to paint the delicate gradations in the sky, but at first you are only interested in the big general tone.

Keep at this simplified type of picture until you feel satisfied that you see it and can paint it.

There are three objectives you must reach before you will paint well. First, you learn to see; second, to draw; and third, to control your medium. You do not learn these separately. They grow together to make up a whole. Your ability to see, to draw, to control your paint develops simultaneously. One helps the other, and yet, at times, you think of them individually.

What do we mean by ability to see? Our eyesight is good; we can see! Yes, that is true, but the artist must see differently from the layman. When you paint, you observe only the important items: those shapes, values and colors that will give the idea you wish. It is a simplified, yet an accurate, truthful seeing. You are translating the beauties of nature. And in doing this, you record the important truths and ignore the trivial. You have the advantage over others who do not paint; you can see the great secret beauties of nature that are ever before our eyes. What a satisfaction there is in really being able to see! That is one of your rewards for the struggle: the failures you have turned into successes. And there are other rewards, too, so don't give up, even when it looks hopeless—for at times it has looked that way even to the great masters of this day and of the past.

And what is drawing—another of those stumbling blocks that we must master? It is the ability to put on paper what you observe. You see simply those lines and forms that give you a truthful translation.

Water color is our medium, and its control is essential if we are to make accurate interpretations. To make the colors flow where we want them to go, to keep them clear and sparkling, to blend them beautifully, and to put them on paper

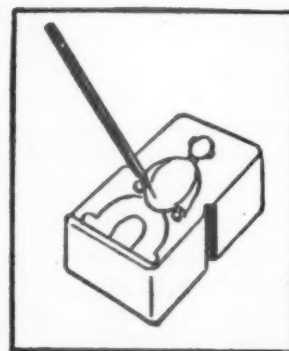
with unhesitating sureness is our objective. This comes with practice, courage and clear thinking. When we are successful, even in a small way, painting is fun.

Outdoor painting has its advantages. First, you are exposed to fresh air and sunshine; and second, you are creating your interpretations of natural beauty. Both are relaxing and healthful.

Creating your own pictures is more fun than copying pictures painted by others. When you paint from nature you are creating. Nature is stimulating your ability to interpret. Copying is reproducing accurately every detail. It would be impossible to copy nature. Every leaf on a tree could not be drawn; some must be left out. Let us go outdoors and paint.



## Soap Carving



**S**CULPTURE IS ALMOST as old as history, but many of us don't think to try it for ourselves because we see the great monuments of the art in wood, bronze, marble . . . and think it must be too difficult an art and too costly a medium.

But we can learn to carve or mold things out of materials which are cheap and easily obtainable . . . clay and plaster, for example . . . or soap.

A revised, 1948 Manual of Soap Sculpture has just been put out by the National Soap Sculpture Committee, and is available to group leaders and educators free of charge. The primary purpose of the committee is to encourage a wholesome, rewarding, inexpensive art-hobby, with soap being recommended as a simple and familiar material. Success with this medium often spurs the beginner to explore other forms, other materials. The manual is short, concise, full of suggestions and helpful illustrations. For further information write to the above committee at 160 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, New York.





DEEMS TAYLOR shows care in his "Cliffdwellers."



JOE LOUIS hung up his gloves, painted with zest.

## PAINTING *Is Popular*

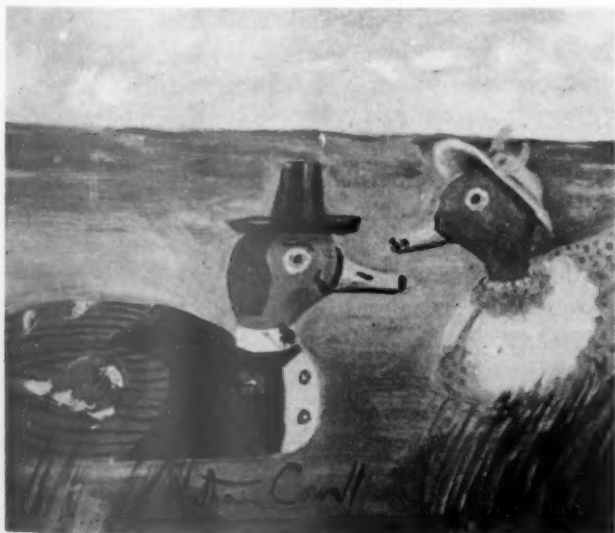
**P**AINTING FOR FUN is catching on furiously from coast to coast. Those who don't try to paint seriously usually achieve a personal whimsy. The efforts of celebrities, here reproduced, were among many which were contributed to an exhibition in the New York galleries of the Associated American Artists for the benefit of the Urban League.\*

*\*Reproduced by permission of LOOK magazine.*



FRANK SINATRA'S sad "Scrubby."

KATHERINE CORNELL'S decoys show delightful humor. JOHN GARFIELD'S seascape depicts vitality and strength.



# Recreation Trends in the Rural Community

A. F. Wileden

**I**T IS HIGHLY significant that the National Recreation Association should hold its National Congress here at Omaha, in the rural middlewest, at this time, and that it should be devoting so much time to rural recreation and to recreation in small communities. Even the casual observer can detect new forces at work in the land, and these new forces are making themselves felt in the rural areas, thus having a direct bearing on our topic.

## Need for Positive Emphasis on Recreation

It would be quite superfluous for me, at this time and with this group, to point out the place of, and needs for, recreation. However, there is a phase of recreation development that we cannot take for granted—that is, to assume that all other people feel and believe as we do about it.

As a matter of fact, I think that one of the most commonly committed errors of many social-minded individuals is the mistaken belief that people need guidance and training to qualify them for the best use of their work time, but that they do not need such guidance and training for the best use of their leisure time. Likewise, the general belief seems to prevail that people need education in their money-earning endeavors, but that no education is needed in their money-spending habits and activities. I suspect that teachers and ministers and civic leaders commit this error less frequently than do many other groups in our society; but even they fall far short when their emphasis terminates with a series of "taboos" or "thou shalt nots." The fallacy is that we have too often taken for granted the positive emphasis in recreation.

There is every evidence that we, as a people, cannot and must not continue to make this mistake. With a greatly increased technology in agriculture and industry, with a rapid decrease in the number of working hours, and increased emphasis on the satisfactions in living, to mention only a few of the trends, the need for education in, and

giving direction to, our leisure-time activities becomes increasingly obvious.

Probably one of the most obvious illustrations of where the lack of a positive education program in the use of leisure and our money-spending habits is leading us today, is in the purchase and consumption of alcoholic beverages. In 1946, people of the United States spent about seven billion dollars in the purchase of such beverages, which is at the rate of almost fifty dollars for every man, woman and child in the country. This was more money than we were spending for all types of public education combined. I want to point out the direction in which it is so easy for us to move as we get more money to spend and more leisure time in which to spend it. And I want to emphasize the urgent need for an organized positive emphasis on a program of leisure-time activities, and the importance of increased attention to education for leisure.

## Importance of the Small Community

However, another need that is just as important, but probably less obvious, is the development of strong local communities in our society. The strength of any society, and most certainly the strength of a democracy, is dependent upon its grass root foundations—and those foundations are its people, its homes and families, and its local group life. In our great concern today for furthering one program or another on a state, or national, or even international basis, we often forget that simple fact.

Particularly are we inclined, today, to forget the small community. The farmers of this country, through the Agricultural Extension Service, probably have the finest system of adult or continuing education yet devised anywhere in this world. Their formal school program is improving. The large cities and those of intermediate size have drawn to them the business resources and leader-

ship of the nation. They have their vocational schools; many of them have extensive programs of cultural and civic education (including recreation); and they have the best formal school systems for their young people. Meanwhile, the small communities, "neither hay nor grass," as Dr. Brunner has described them, are relatively untouched by the Agricultural Extension Service. They are without vocational education other than that included in the high school curriculum, and almost invariably without organized programs in the field of civic education or recreation. Worse than that, their most valuable resource, their youth, is continually being drained off to the cities. The strikingly commonplace remark of the village youth is, "Why should I stay? There is nothing for me here!" This, and more, was the picture A. E. Morgan had in mind when he wrote, "In modern times the small community has played the part of an orphan in an unfriendly world. It has been despised, neglected, exploited, and robbed. The cities have skimmed off the cream of its young population. Yet the small community has supplied the life-blood of civilization, and neglect of it has been one of the primary reasons for the slowness and interrupted course of human progress. It is high time that the fundamental significance of the small community be recognized."

At the same time that we have been permitting all of this to happen, the small community has been becoming an increasingly important unit in our society. For one thing, about one-third of the people of the United States today live in these small communities; the actual number, of course, depending on where we draw the line. Furthermore, the proportion of this population is increasing. An analysis of the population from 1930 to 1940 shows that, during that period, the farm population of the United States increased only two-tenths of one per cent, urban population increased 7.9 per cent, but the rural non-farm population increased by 14.2 per cent. This rural non-farm group included the smaller of these small communities that we are talking about.

The importance of the small community is slowly being recognized. The decentralization movement in industry is looking to the small community because of the economic advantages it offers. We are reorganizing our school systems, whether it be a consolidated or a unified plan, with

Dr. A. F. Wileden, rural sociologist for the University of Wisconsin, in this address to the National Recreation Congress, points out that the strength of any society is dependent upon its grass root foundations—its people, its homes, families and local group life.

the community as a definite part of the picture. Church leaders are conscious of the precarious position of the open country and also of the city church, and are talking of community churches. Health people are organizing community health committees and community health councils, and the number of hospitals located in small communities is rapidly increasing. The community council movement is again meeting acceptance in a number of places. And occasionally it is hinted, if not directly expressed, that the time has arrived when we should strengthen the thousands of small rural communities throughout this nation as a defense against atomic warfare.

Apparently the time has arrived when recreation-minded people should, and must, give more attention to the development of sound recreation programs concerned with the welfare of all the people who live in these small communities. Occasionally such experiments are now being set up and carried on in selected communities, but the procedures are not too clear. Obviously the traditional methods of organization used up to this time are not adequate. It is equally obvious that the large city pattern of recreation organization is in need of considerable modification if it is to meet the conditions which prevail in small communities. It appears to me that one of the major matters of present-day concern is with the types of recreation organization most adaptable to the thousands of small rural communities, and where such programs fit in with the other functions of community life.

### Trends in Rural Recreation

I suspect that one of the most fruitful ways of analyzing our methods of organization for carrying on recreation programs is by observing its chronological stages of development. I think this is particularly helpful in rural areas because different communities are in these different stages of development. Yet the different social forces bearing on the situation today are stimulating them all to follow along these similar channels.



RECREATION ASSOCIATED WITH WORK HABITS—Historically and culturally in rural America, our leisure-time activities have been closely associated with our work habits. Work has been repeatedly emphasized as a virtue. This emphasis



has been very strong at certain periods in our development, and has been, and still is, very strong with some people. It is an emphasis which has produced very tangible results in our development as a nation. It has made possible the carving of a great nation and a great world power out of a wilderness, in a relatively short time. Attitudinally, with many people, it has left little or no place for leisure. It was *Poor Richard's Almanac*, one of the most widely read publications of less than two centuries ago, that said "Idleness is the devil's workshop"; and idleness was then used almost synonymously with leisure. This emphasis was so great that some rural people today have to apologize to their neighbors for taking a day off. They subconsciously seek to justify their taking a vacation or even going to a picnic.

This stage in the development of a leisure-time program was the day of the barn raising and the husking bee. It was the period of mutual aid when farmers helped their less fortunate neighbor get in his crops. It was the day when men hunted and fished for food, and women got together to tie a quilt or even to do the family sewing. You can easily see why a farmer would go over on a winter evening to talk with his neighbor about his crops and stay for a friendly game of cards. It was logical that the agricultural fair should start as a very popular educational enterprise and gradually become more and more of a recreation outing. Rural people really did work hard to create a farm and build a home out of the wilderness, and to get some of the increasingly large number of "modern" conveniences for the family to use. However, they were stimulated by an urge for greater satisfactions beyond these physical things, an urge which led them to seek personal pleasures within their economic and cultural framework. They found that they could achieve some of these satisfactions for themselves, and secure the approval of other people at the same time, by associating their play with their work. It is well for us to remember that some people and some groups are still in this stage, or just emerging from it.



RECREATION AS A FUNCTION OF ORGANIZATION AND GROUP LIFE—A second stage in the development of a concern for recreation in rural communities is the one in which most rural areas and small communities find themselves today. It is the volunteer recreation leader stage, and really is divided into two periods.

The first of these was when rural social life tended to center around two of the leading rural

social institutions—school and church. At that time, a part of the teacher's recognized job was to provide leadership for the total school district, and usually the teacher lived in the district. These were the days of the spelling bee and of the geography and arithmetic match, participated in by parents and children together. They were the days of the school social center or of the school-centered community club or farmers' club. Along with this came a concern on the part of the church to serve the social needs of its constituency—and particularly of its young people.

However, since World War I, this emphasis on recreation from the church and school has been changing, probably not because the leadership within these groups wanted it to change, but rather because of certain forces beyond their control. On the one hand, teachers have become more professional in the task of teaching children in school, and the automobile has made it no longer necessary for them to live in the district in which they teach. Also the emphasis has been on making the minister a better trained theologian. On the other hand, an almost entirely new era of special interest groups has come into being—a type of group that, much like the church, has wanted to use certain phases of recreation to balance its program and strengthen its position with the constituency it would serve. I am referring to the increased expansion of farm organizations such as the Grange, the Farm Bureau, and the Farmers Union; of civic clubs such as the Lions Clubs, Kiwanis, and Rotary; of women's organizations such as Women's Clubs, Mothers' Clubs, Homemakers' Clubs and Parent-Teacher Associations; of youth organizations such as the Boy and Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, F.F.A. and F.H.A., and older youth clubs of various kinds; and of the many cooperatives. The numbers and types of these organizations have been expanding rapidly in the past twenty-five years, and most of them are concerned with selected phases of a recreation program.

This desire on the part of these many organizations and the church and school to provide at least part of a recreation program to a part of the community, has given rise to a number of major organizational problems. Particularly is this the case when we realize that, like the church, the major interest of these organizations is almost always in some other field, with only a secondary interest in recreation. One of these problems is the need for these various groups, each with somewhat different points of view, to get together on some sort of area basis and plan for the total needs of the total area. It is this situation and this need that



have led to the development, in many areas, of informal programs of community cooperation and also to the development of community councils. Frequently, in small communities, these councils virtually have become recreation councils, and some are recognized by that name. A successful program of community cooperation, or a community council, necessitates a willingness on the part of the various local organizations and their leaders to sublimate their personal and group desires and ambitions in terms of the total welfare of the area, and also a willingness on the part of the "outside" leadership in each of these organizations to permit this to be done. There are, today, increasing numbers of illustrations of such successful cooperation to the mutual benefit of all concerned.

Another of the recognized needs coming out of this situation is for "trained recreation leaders." Many, but not all, of our recreation activities are of a group nature and necessitate group leaders with certain knowledge and skills. A total recreation program requires leadership with understanding and perspective. Very seldom have preachers, or teachers, or organization leaders secured much training along these lines. Very few professional recreation leaders with these qualifications are available, even if rural communities wanted to employ them. The immediate solution, therefore, is to try to provide some of this vision and understanding and skill to large numbers of volunteer leaders. It is this task that the National Recreation Association initiated on a national basis a number of years ago. It is this task that the Agricultural Extension Service, in a number of states, has been, and now is, carrying on. It is this task, in an expanded way, that a number of states are now meeting through the Recreation Leaders Laboratory movement. In Wisconsin, for example, the Recreation Leaders Laboratory Association, in cooperation with the Agricultural Extension Service, last year, through its state, regional and county laboratories, provided recreation training to about 1,800 leaders and prospective leaders. This laboratory association, which states its purpose to be "to discover, develop and train volunteer recreation leaders," is a cooperative effort between churches, schools, rural and village organizations, cooperatives, welfare agencies and the extension service.



**RECREATION AS A PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY**—A third stage in the development of a program of leisure-time activities, and one which even in small communities will become more important in the

future, is its development as a public responsibility. Education for work, and the carrying on of adult educational programs concerned with earning a living, have long been considered a responsibility of government. I believe we are at the threshold of a similar development in the field of education for leisure and in the general direction of leisure-time activities. The public library movement has, of course, pioneered in this field. (The National Recreation Association has worked to this end for many years in the recreation field.—Ed.) Furthermore, regardless of how we may have felt about it at the time, the recreation program carried on during the recent depression years by the Works Progress Administration gave the publicly sponsored recreation movement a great impetus. Even though the leadership was often weak and poorly qualified, many people envisioned the possibilities of a broad recreation program for the first time. All of us, I expect, know of cases where people who had tried to provide their own recreation leadership on a volunteer basis found it more convenient to call on WPA to provide that leadership; and when WPA was terminated, found themselves caught short. The simple fact is that the idea of a publicly paid recreation leadership, similar to other fields of education and welfare, was planted in many areas. The U.S.O. movement, through returning service men and women, has given it impetus; and that idea has now taken root.

The results are that today even some very small communities are employing recreation directors out of public funds. Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin,



a small town with a population of about 1,500 people in its incorporate limits and probably about 3,000 people in its service area, is an example. Other small communities have expanded the appointment of one or more members of their high school faculty to twelve months and given them the increased responsibility of providing recreation leadership for the entire community, with special emphasis on children during the summer months when they are not in school. Occasionally, also, counties or parts of counties have employed recreation supervisors. These are rural adaptations of a plan rather generally accepted in our larger

cities, and even in many of our small cities that have rather fully staffed recreation departments.

As a matter of fact, probably the two major factors that have slowed the more rapid expansion of a publicly sponsored recreation program have been the usual reluctance on the part of public officials to allocate tax money for new purposes, and the lack of adequately trained professional recreation leadership. Up to this time much of the emphasis by professional leadership in the recreation field has been on physical education with special attention to competitive athletics. This has been true both in and out of the public school system, and has been the characteristic emphasis in our newspapers and over the radio. A much broader concept of recreation is developing today, and is being demanded by rural and village people. The request is for a program including cultural, social and manual recreation, as well as physical recreation. This necessitates a type of professionally trained leadership which, up to this time, has been inadequate to meet the needs. It was to meet this demand that the University of Wisconsin a year ago launched a curriculum for training such leadership. The bases for this curriculum are an adequate background in the social sciences, training in a number of skill areas, and training in professional methods and techniques. Other universities and colleges are developing similar curricula.

I do not wish to imply that I believe all profes-

sional recreation leaders should be employed through public funds. Many private agencies, such as the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Red Cross, Labor Unions, Industrial Plants, Farm Organizations and Cooperatives should, and will, continue to provide their constituencies with staff qualified in this field. However, I venture a prediction that more and more such personnel, working in the interest of all of the people, will be provided through public funds.

Neither do I wish to imply that I think such professional leadership will supplant all volunteer leadership. The very essence of a recreation program is the voluntary aspect of it, and one phase of voluntary expression is voluntary leadership. It seems to me that what is likely to develop in the small rural community is professionally trained direction for the program, using a staff of volunteer leaders—especially in the skill areas. In many communities, as I indicated above, this will probably take the form of an expansion of the already available professional recreation leadership in the schools. However, this will often require differently trained teachers than schools have employed up to the present time. Also, it is frequently going to require an expanded vision of the responsibility of the modern school to the community. There is considerable evidence that, through our centralized or unified school systems, we are moving in this direction.

## Rural Recreation — South Carolina Way

**M**ANY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL extension leaders appreciate the fact that recreation activities add interest and fellowship to their program. Florence County, South Carolina, for example, has an active rural program, and it is interesting to note the amount of recreation included. Each 4-H and Farm Women's Club has a chairman of recreation and music, and a part of each club meeting is devoted to a period of games and fellowship.

One year's program has included the following recreation activities: a skit on the "Origin and Meaning of the 4-H Program"; a nature program; seasonal parties; a food conservation program, including planning of refreshments; flower arrangement suggestions.

All Farm Women's Clubs in the county belong to the County Council of Farm Women, which holds two meetings a year, each one being planned around a special interest. One such meeting used the theme—"Consumer's Education." Two hostess clubs took charge of arrangements, group

singing and refreshments. The speaker chose the topic, "Better Buys," and exhibits for the meeting included items suggestive of "saving," such as made over garments, and the like.

A Rally Day, held last fall, was a great success. It started with a parade down the main street of Florence, headed by a police patrol. All traffic was stopped and, since there was no band, boys and girls sang 4-H songs. Each club carried its own banner. The 500 boys and girls who took part marched to the park, where the Kiwanis Club served luncheon and led games; then went to the local theater for a special program. Several new clubs have decided to organize since the rally, and five new groups are now on the waiting list.

Money raising projects are also planned with an emphasis on such recreation activities as fish suppers, barbecues, plays, and variety tables at meetings—surplus foods such as butter, eggs, and other farm produce, aprons, canned goods, seeds, cuttings which are donated and sold at low cost.

# World



## at Play

**Football—Standing Up**—So that its young football enthusiasts may play the game with much less risk of injury, "touch" football leagues are now being organized at Los Angeles municipal playgrounds. Since most junior Blanchards and Davises usually lack protective pads, headgear and specialized training, "touch" football is a safer variation of the game in that it eliminates tackling and massed line play and reduces the number of players of each team from eleven to seven. The playground leagues are being divided into a junior class for boys fifteen years of age and under, and a senior division for youths eighteen years of age and under. After the season's play at each recreation center produces a local championship team, the winners will compete in district playoffs and then, finally, in city-wide playoffs for the Los Angeles playgrounds "touch" football championship.



**A Musical Anniversary**—It was about one year ago—December 16—that the Toledo, Ohio, Division of Recreation made its musical debut. Under its sponsorship, eight vocal groups joined talents for a Choral Parade held at the city's Museum of Art. Among those who blended their voices in traditionals and favorites were the Waite High School Choir, singing "O Come All Ye Faithful" and "Silent Night"; the Men's Glee Club of the Sun Oil Company and the St. Mary's

Men's and Boys' Choir, each singing well-known selections; the Police and Fireman's Glee Club, lending their baritone and tenor voices to "Dear Land of Home" and "The Lost Chord." The recreation division was very successful in its first attempt to bring to the people of Toledo a vocal festival comprising representative singing groups from churches, schools, industries and social organizations. Everyone is now looking forward to this year's second Choral Parade.



**Ghostly Reminiscence**—Giant community Halloween carnivals were held the night of Saturday, October 30, at playgrounds and recreation centers throughout Los Angeles. Under plans set in motion by the city recreation and park department, great bonfires blazed at playground centers, lighting the way for the arrival of troupes of costumed ghosts, hobgoblins, witches and other eerie characters of all sizes—from tiny toddlers to full-grown spooks. After this came costume parades, music, entertainment, contests, treasure hunts, stunts, trips through "haunted houses," dancing on lighted tennis courts and in community club-houses, popcorn, hot dogs, lemonade and other fun for everyone. It all added up to seventy-one carnivals and dances, sixty-three children's parties, 136 youth and adult parties, sixty children's plays, and a total of 330 events.



# CREATING AN ILLUSION

## *A Novel Idea*



**A**T ONE TIME or another, almost all amateur and semi-professional play producers are called upon to take a not-too-experienced cast, supported by something less than the latest mechanical equipment, and stage a highly polished version of Shakespeare's "Macbeth" or another equally formidable play.

One of the major problems of these harrassed producers is *how* to handle those delicate, and sometimes deceptive, scenes in classical and modern plays which call for an illusion of the supernatural or freakish. Such scenes, especially in Shakespeare, are apt to appear more ludicrous than dramatic when produced without a sure and experienced touch.

The answer to "weak" productions may lie in a new technique which employs "special photographic effects," or, more simply, motion pictures, to intensify the effect of an illusion while injecting an element of novelty and surprise into the difficult scenes. Certain sequences and bits of action in many plays lend themselves perfectly to the medium of the motion picture; when photographed in a studio and then projected on the stage during the performance, an invigorating combination of the two entertainment mediums is the result.

In their recent production of "Macbeth," the University of Minnesota Players used this motion picture technique to good advantage. That great tragedy calls for the sudden materialization of the three witches at several points during the action. These weird sisters are ministers of evil; they command the forces which motivate the chief characters in the play, and are thus of the utmost importance. Their scenes must "come off" if the play is not be reduced to a farce; but the cave, the cauldron, the gruesome ingredients in their wicked

broth, their wild and withered aspect, the grim mirth of these inhuman things, all present to the amateur a tough problem in representation.

Aside from the witches themselves, there is also the problem of how to execute the stage directions in the witch scenes. The sequences are replete with such directions as "witches vanish," "first apparition: an armed head," "second apparition: a child crowned," or "a show of eight Kings, Banquo's ghost following," and finally "the witches dance and then vanish." As Macbeth says, "What seemed corporal melted as breath into wind."

To achieve all these desired effects, and to intensify the witch scenes, the theater group's director and designer, Frank M. Whiting, called upon the moving picture. With the cooperation of the University's audio-visual department, the witch scenes were photographed in a studio, all in one day, using regular members of the cast, ordinary black and white 16 mm. motion picture film, plus a few tricks of photography. The illusion of the apparition was accomplished by the use of the "dissolve" method, which allows characters, when photographed in a certain way, to appear or disappear as if out of thin air. The acting for the screen sequences was simplified, and not as subtle as if for the stage, while the lighting was deliberately kept sharp so that the total effect was a clear and distinct picture.

Projection was done with a regular 16 mm. machine. The picture was thrown onto a large backdrop of "scrim," a seamless theatrical gauze which can take a projected picture and still allow light to come from behind, thus decreasing the "silver screen" effect which might spoil the desired illusion of a sudden apparition. The stage, too, was dark during the projection, with the exception



## *for Amateur Theatricals*

John H. Dahn

of small spotlights on the actors involved in the scene. Dark drapes were used to soak up any possible reflection on the floor or walls near the backdrop. To further increase the chimerical atmosphere, a cloud effect, made with a regular spotlight and a revolving cloud-disk attachment, was projected on the same backdrop with the pictures of the witches.

Thus, on cue, three life-sized old crones suddenly materialized in mid-air on the stage, startling the audience and holding their credulity much longer than might have been possible with serio-comic actors trying to hold an illusion. The projection of the three witches and their ensuing action blended with the other action and dialogue on the stage. Off-stage voices spoke for the picture actors, but a sound film could have been used. The playwright's directions were carried out to the letter—the apparitions appeared upper left on the stage; Macbeth addressed his lines to them; they performed their "business," and vanished.

This change from "live" actors to "celluloid" ones for certain types of characters doubles the effect of make-believe, while the change of medium affords a chance to use all manner of trick photography for desired effects. By the change, your audience is forced to divorce itself from any close personal connection with actors trying to "put over" a supernatural impression; the attitude of look-at-Joe-up-there-trying-to-act, which is sudden death to some amateur plays, is greatly diminished by using movie sequences for those parts, in that you are aided by the "acceptance" of the motion picture as a regularly used medium for phantasy and illusion in entertainment.

There are limitless opportunities to use special photographic effects—in plays, in pageants, as

striking backgrounds for pantomimes and tableaux, even in puppet shows, and in the so-called "Living Newspapers" in which a regular documentary film is inserted into the action of a play to help drive home a point at issue.

Other uses are less ambitious and involve mostly background effects. Hardly a play producer has not, at some time, heard the artist's pleas for "real" snow falling in the background, or some "lifelike" clouds seen through a doorway. All he could do was to sadly shake his head, but now the motion picture can provide the background. A stock shot from a film library or one made by an amateur, projected from behind the stage onto any type of translucent screen, will provide a most authentic background. As a matter of fact, once you begin to think in terms of using the photographic arts in play productions, there are few places in which they do not seem to have good use.

As for costs and technical difficulties, they will depend on the magnitude of the special effect you attempt and the amount of costly experimenting you do to achieve that affect. But to the question of whether it is practical to try special photographic effects in amateur or semi-professional productions, the answer is probably yes, although individual cases require individual answers.

It is well to remember that, since the end of the war, a great many experts and trained technicians in photography have returned from the services. Practically every city, and most towns, have an amateur-professional who may have had considerable training in the Army or Navy. Then, too, there are more than two hundred schools and colleges in the United States which can produce their own movies. Good pictures have been made in Los Angeles, Denver, Dearborn, Cleveland, Oakdale, Greenwich and a hundred other public schools, not to mention the colleges and universities equipped to do the job. Add to these the many local motion picture producing companies, and it is evident that no small reservoir of photographic experience is available for a play producer to tap.

There are no rules for this experimental use of photography in play productions, nor is there any precedent to follow; the only limitations are imagination and financial resources. One thing can be said, on the basis of audience reaction where it has been tried—the special effect *is* worth the special effort.

(Perhaps a library of film strips could be built up by a group, such as in the University of Minnesota, which can afford such experimentation and has the necessary photographic help. These could then be made available to other drama groups wishing to try such devices.—Ed.)

# AMERICANS ALL

*"An activity for promoting brotherhood and good citizenship."*

Mary Barnum Bush Hauck

AS PART OF the celebration of Brotherhood Week, which will fall on the dates February 20 to 27 this winter, many communities will be considering the presentation of a community folk festival. This account of a successful, annual folk festival, held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, carries ideas for other community projects.

Upwards of 2,500 persons jammed into the Forum of the State Education Building, one evening in June to see and hear the 500 persons, of many heritages, participating in Dauphin County's Twelfth Annual Folk Festival, "Americans All." This was sponsored by the Dauphin County Folk Council with Dr. I. D. App as chairman, and I as founder and director of the festival. Edward C. Michener, art consultant for the Council, designed the stage settings.

The episodes of the various groups were built around the theme of the festival, "E Pluribus Unum," (One Out of Many). Interwoven into this theme were the historical facts explaining the significance of all the symbols which are used in the Great Seal of the United States.

The opening scene was called "E Pluribus Unum," featuring "Dauphin County at Work." It included a waitress, doctor, model, housewife, serviceman, telephone lineman, milkman, architect, engineer, and so on, each wearing the garb peculiar to his particular profession. Chief Fireway and Little Rising Sun, American Indians, presented "The Eagle Dance," illustrating the symbolic use of the eagle in the Great Seal.

A colorful and "true to life" scene, "A Night in Steelton," was presented by the Serbian Singing Society Marinkovich. Second generation children danced the traditional Kolo, while their parents sang the accompaniment. The group also presented traditional love ballads and work tunes.

"A Picnic in the Woods" was beautifully portrayed by forty children of the Slovak Jednota Home, Middletown, attired in traditional costume. In this scene the children celebrated "the awakening of nature—Spring."

A group of provincial French songs were sung

by Marie Magdeleine Herbert, soloist.

The "Americans All" idea was brought dramatically and impressively to the foreground by seventy members of the Harrisburg Symphony Choir. As the curtain went up, the choir members, attired in purple robes, stood on both sides of the stage, facing the American flag, unfurled in a breeze in center backstage. The narrator, Dr. M. Claude Rosenberry, Chief, Music Education, explained the historical background of the music in the patriotic song, "America," and of its verses. The house and stage were plunged into total darkness between the third and fourth verses. A spotlight fell on a large replica of the United States Seal. The choir sang the final stanza, which is a prayer, on their knees, with their hands clasped.

"All on a Summer's Day" included a group of three intricate German dance patterns by the third generation German-American group. "War No More" was effectively presented by the Negro "Prim Singers".

The modern Greek "Carnival" was colorfully and gaily done by the Hellenic Youth Organization of Harrisburg. Among the three dance rhythms was the "Tsamikos". The dancers wore masks, and wove intricate patterns with ribbons around a flower-trimmed Maypole. "Swing Your Partners the American Way," by the American Folk Dance Group of the Harrisburg Area, concluded the event. Dr. George H. Ashley, exponent of Cecile Sharp, founded this Old English dance group twenty years ago.

All the festivals have been free to the public and are financially supported by individuals and organizations within the community. The Department of Public Instruction of Pennsylvania indorses the folk lore festival as a cultural "out of school" activity for promoting brotherhood and good citizenship. The festival's aim is to serve as a medium to bind folk legacies of many lands into "a national fabric of beauty and strength for American citizenship." Extensive plans are now being made by the Dauphin County Folk Council for the 1949 production.

# A High School Club System

*A recreation survey in which activities of students are limited to those where participation is voluntary.\**

**S**TUDENTS at the high school in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, through their club system, can take part in a variety of recreation activities of a voluntary nature, including clubs established for purely recreation purposes and honorary social clubs. Arranged to meet and satisfy the needs of all, the club system was organized to provide an opportunity to expand various interests and hobbies, and to promote the exchange of ideas and opinions between those young people with similar interests.

## Varied Student Interests

The drama always holds an appeal for many. To further this interest, three different dramatics clubs meet twice a month. The Sophomore Club maintains an average of twenty members who observe outside performers and read and discuss plays. The twenty-eight members of the Junior Club learn stage make-up, review Broadway plays, and present radio skits. Members of the Senior Dramatics Club present plays, skits in assembly, and radio programs.

An important dramatics event is the senior class play, which is chosen with the idea of having a good-sized and well-balanced cast. In addition to this, the seniors also present a class day program, which often takes the form of a musical review and includes a large cast. For students primarily interested in radio broadcasting, there are weekly thirty-minute broadcasts from the assembly, with boys and girls taking part in the skits and serving as announcers.

Several musical organizations provide for the musically inclined students, and promote an interest in listening to, as well as playing, good music. The band, composed of a hundred members who practice daily, is heard at football and basketball games, assemblies, concerts and community affairs. A symphony orchestra also plays in assembly, at concerts and at community affairs. The dance orchestra, a smaller group, plays for student council dances, school parties and assembly programs.

The choir, composed of thirty-two voices, and

the glee club, with 140 pupils participating, comprise the vocal activities at the school. They afford a chance for a better selection of choral music and the opportunity for voice development. Both groups make appearances in churches, schools and service clubs in the community.

To promote interest, loyalty and understanding throughout the school, as well as to develop the creative and reporting abilities of talented and eligible pupils, the Williamsport High School has two publications. The "Cherry and White" is published six times yearly by a staff of fifty-five students, mostly seniors. The business staff handles circulation, promotes advertising campaigns, solicits advertising and handles money. "La Memoire," the yearbook, is published annually by a staff of forty-five boys and girls. During the summer, members of the business staff solicit advertisements from local merchants and, in the fall, solicit student subscriptions and run a large advertising campaign.

Journalists have a chance to study and discuss activities in their field at the monthly meetings of the Quill and Scroll Club, sponsored by Northwestern University. Members of this club must be of at least junior standing, in the upper third of the class, and recommended by the faculty adviser for superior work done in journalistic or creative writing. Initiations into the club are conducted at the annual publications banquet.

## Athletic and Club Activities

As important features of the over-all recreation program, athletic activities and varsity sports lead the field in popularity and actual student participation. There are about eighty boys on the Williamsport High School football team, and the basketball team is also very popular. Both these teams develop sportsmanship as well as skill.

A much larger number of students take part in the intramural activities. Intramural sports for

\*Data secured by Miss Patricia Gearhart, president of the Pep Club, and Miss Rhoda Forman, a member of a Problems of Democracy class, under guidance of Russell H. Rhoads, head of the Department of Social Studies.

boys include tennis, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, badminton, golf, swimming, bowling, track and field, and boxing. The girls' program includes soccer, tennis, field hockey, volleyball, basketball, archery, badminton, shuffleboard, swimming, ping pong, softball, and bowling. Most of these groups meet twice weekly, according to the season.

Popular also are the various hobby clubs, such as the current events club; a Spanish Club which features speakers, games, music and discussions about our South American neighbors; a Deutscher Verein (German club); a movie appreciation club; a debate club, carrying on intramural debates; the Pep Club, which promotes interest in school sports and works with the cheerleaders; the math engineers club; the chemistry club; the home economics club and the library club. The Hi-Y and Hi-Tri Clubs are also social organizations, formed with the idea of creating, maintaining and extending high standards of character.

To the many students who participate in extra-curricular activities, under the Williamsport High School club system, there is an opportunity to be of service, as well as to gain experience and pleasure. Committees are appointed to help with parties and proms, and club members serve the school by cooperating in its many programs and activities.

### Night Classes

Williamsport High School's recreation program doesn't stop with its regular pupils, but strives also to meet the recreation needs of adults, veterans and postgraduate students through night classes. Generally meeting once a week are night classes in vocational woodworking, arts and crafts, commercial art, foods, interior decorating and weaving. Others, which meet more often, are the radio class, the ceramics class, and the dressmaking class. A class providing recreation for veterans has also been established.



## A Junior Football Program

Marshall R. Laird

FACED WITH THE problem of allowing boys to play football without supervision, adequate facilities or equipment, a few interested fathers in Scarsdale, New York, formed a Junior Football League in 1944.

At that time a municipal recreation department had not been established. Now the newly established recreation department acts as coordinator and league secretary for the entire football program.

There are two leagues: one is known as the Junior League and the other as the Intermediate League. The written consent of parents is required in order to play tackle football.

### Organization

The leagues function through a Central Committee which has jurisdiction over all league affairs. This Central Committee consists of a chairman, a local father interested in boys' football, a secretary, and a representative each of the

Physical Education Department of the Public and Parochial Schools, the recreation department, and each team.

The teams are under the direction of the fathers of the boys and other men interested in the sport. This policy is encouraged because one of the objectives of the leagues is to have fathers work with their sons.

*Whether or not football activities for juniors are a wise venture is a question of wide debate. The National Recreation Association would welcome comments on the advantages and disadvantages of this activity.*



The Junior League is made up of boys up to and including the sixth grade in any of the village schools.

The Junior Intramural or Intermediate League is composed of boys up to and including the ninth grade, who meet eligibility requirements. All boys in this classification are asked to sign up and team squads are formed, allowing from twenty-two to twenty-seven boys per squad. Upon election by the boys, each captain chooses one player to assist him—according to a draw between captains for the choice of first, second, and third teams. A coach is assigned to each captain who, with the guidance of his player assistant and coach, determines the relative preference for additional players in the group to make up his squad.

Local high school junior varsity and varsity players act as officials; regulation high school rules are used; and officials are instructed in the use of the "quick whistle" to avoid possible injuries.

### Games

All games are played on Saturday mornings and consist of four twelve-minute quarters with a ten minute intermission at half time. Junior teams are permitted sixty seconds and intramural teams forty-five seconds, instead of the prescribed thirty, from the time the referee places the ball until the snap of the next play. Unlimited time-outs are allowed each team, to permit more substituting.

All players are fully equipped with headgear, shoulder pads, football pants and shoes, through the cooperation of neighborhood associations and a policy of collecting football gear "handed down" by older boys.

Fields measure eighty or one hundred yards in length and, contrary to some other programs, a regulation football is used.

### Scoring

In addition to the customary points awarded for a touchdown, point after touchdown, field goal or safety, each team is credited with ten points for each game in which all players on its official squad play approximately two minutes or more. For each game, the credit of ten points will be reduced by one point for each player who does not play approximately two minutes or more. This point factor, complete with ten points for each game won and totaled at the end of the regular playing schedule, selects the winner.

### Eligibility

All players are required to meet the eligibility standards as listed. These have been established to reduce the risks involved by limiting the differ-

ences between the boys with respect to age, weight and height. These limits are based upon league averages since such averages represent the normal boy at his proper grade limit.

The following classification table is strictly followed. The classification number is the sum of three factors: age, weight, and height, as taken as of September of the current season.

AGE Yr. Mo. to Yr. Mo.	"A" Factor	WEIGHT Lbs.	"W" Factor	HEIGHT Ft. In.	"H" Factor
10- 1 to 10-3	1	61- 65	1	4- 6	1
10- 4 " 10-6	2	66- 70	2	4- 8	2
10- 7 " 10-9	3	71- 75	3	4-10	3
10-10 " 11-0	4	76- 80	4	5- 0	4
11- 1 " 11-3	5	81- 85	5	5- 2	5
11- 4 " 11-6	6	86- 90	6	5- 4	6
11- 7 " 11-9	7	91- 95	7	5- 6	7
11-10 " 12-0	8	96-100	8	5- 8	8
12- 1 " 12-3	9	101-105	9	5-10	9
12- 4 " 12-6	10	106-110	10	6- 0	10
12- 7 " 12-9	11	111-115	11	6- 2	11
12-10 " 13-0	12	116-120	12	6- 4	12
13- 1 " 13-3	13	121-125	13		
13- 4 " 13-6	14	126-130	14		
13- 7 " 13-9	15	131-135	15		
13-10 " 14-0	16	136-140	16		
14- 1 " 14-3	17	141-145	17		
14- 4 " 14-6	18	146-150	18		
14- 7 " 14-9	19	151-155	19		
14-10 " 15-0	20	156-160	20		

### Summary

This village-wide program recently completed its fourth year of play. During the season of 1947, some two hundred and ten boys participated. Such a program has afforded keen competition and training of team play, resulting in the building of strong bodies, healthy minds and the wholesome spirit of good sportsmanship.

Supervision and strict adherence to the playing code shows a record of no serious injuries in four years of play.

(See *World at Play* note, "Football—Standing Up," page 415.—Ed.)



# Recreation News

## *City of Gardeners*

The New York Park Association's Golden Anniversary plan, whereby citizens may contribute flowering shrubs and trees to the city for badly needed permanent plantings in parks and parkways, has already received enthusiastic response. Nearly a half hundred civic and other organizations have volunteered their cooperation. The Park Department has prepared, for public information, lists of park and parkway areas in all boroughs where additional plantings are needed. The kinds of desirable plants and the cost of each are included in these lists. The minimum price is two dollars and fifty cents for a forsythia or rugosa rose. Flowering Japanese cherry trees and dogwood range from eighteen dollars to thirty dollars, depending on size; azaleas are fifteen dollars and laurel twelve dollars. The donor is permitted to designate the borough and park or parkway in which he wishes his gift to be planted. The Park Association's office is at 119 East Nineteenth Street.

## *November Referendum Elections*

By a vote of 2,693 to 1,256, the one mill levy in Norwalk, Ohio, originally authorized in 1944, was approved for another five-year-period, for recreation, park services and facilities.

\* \* \*

A bond issue for two million dollars was approved by voters in Baltimore, Maryland, to be used largely for modernizing existing swimming pools of the city.

\* \* \*

In Omaha, Nebraska, over 15,000 more people voted one way or another this November than did in May. Although the mill levy was lost by approximately 2,300 votes—out of the more than 70,000 votes cast—most of the various city commissions, including that for parks and recreation, were given a vote of confidence of from two-to-one to three-to-one.

\* \* \*

The voters of Niles, Ohio, approved, by an eighty per cent majority, levies for recreation and parks.

## *Youth Forum*

Six junior high school students, composing the panel to discuss "Who Governs Our City?" at the first *New York Times* Youth Forum in October, were found to be chiefly interested in more playgrounds and recreation centers. The forum was attended by 500 children from public, parochial and private schools. Before the discussion began, City Council President Vincent T. Impelleri explained briefly the city's responsibilities and the method of financing the cost of the city's operation. Members of the panel, questioned by the moderator, showed considerable knowledge of the various municipal departments and their functions, and particular concern regarding the recreation situation. The children asked for more playgrounds and better locations for them, and they were told that New York City has made great strides in this direction, transforming many slum areas along East River and Riverside Drive into playgrounds and ball fields. The statement was made that playgrounds are the problem of the Commissioner of Parks, and mention of Robert Moses' name brought cheers from the youthful audience.

## *Personnel Changes Down South*

Associate State Forester, C. H. Schaeffer, has resigned after twenty-four years work in forestry and state parks in the South, twelve of which have been with the South Carolina State Commission of Forestry. Mr. Schaeffer was appointed in 1937, and established the educational and informational work of the commission, which has been very conducive to the advancement of both forestry and state parks in South Carolina.

\* \* \*

C. West Jacocks, former Chief of Recreation in South Carolina, has recently replaced T. D. Ravelle as the Director of State Parks. Mr. Jacocks is well-known throughout the state from his years of experience in the work of the Boy Scouts, the South Carolina Fish and Game Association, and the United States Fish and Wild Life Service.

## City Planning Week

**B**ACK IN 1945, the Buffalo City Planning Association realized that it must place civic planning on a more universal basis if the group was to meet with continued success. In that year, the organization sponsored what it believes to be the first civic planning week in the country. Since then, one week each year has been set aside by an official proclamation of the mayor which urges all citizens to come forward at this time with suggestions for the betterment of the community.

Each year, emphasis has been placed on a different phase of city planning. Taking its cue from a report of the National Recreation Association, which disclosed that Buffalo was deficient in the total size and distribution of its parks and playgrounds, the planning association this year decided on a recreational theme.

Long before the mayor's proclamation designated the week of October 18-23 as Civic Planning Week, Charles P. Penney, member of a local law firm and a vice-president of the planning organization, was appointed chairman of a committee to plan the activities of the week, and sub-committees were appointed to handle the individual functions.

Permission was obtained from public and parochial school authorities to include, in the regular English curriculum of all students from seventh

grade through high school, the composition of an essay entitled "Where Shall We Play?" To aid students in obtaining the facts needed for the preparation of these essays, 57,000 copies of a pamphlet, which bore the appropriate heading of "Thought Starters," were published and distributed to the school children by the association.

The luncheon meeting, which inaugurated the week's activities, was addressed by Lebert H. Weir, a field representative of the National Recreation Association. On hand for Mr. Weir's discussion were members of the Buffalo City Planning Association's board of directors and their guests, city officials, and representatives from all of the larger civic organizations and from each of the city's newspapers and radio stations.

Mr. Weir, who had spent several days braving very inclement weather to study the progress which had been made since his last visit, expressed satisfaction with the general improvement. He found that many of the suggestions which he had made previously had been acted upon, including: increased appropriations for the city's parks department; replacement of the old, obsolete music hall; the construction of a large stadium and municipal auditorium.

Buffalo's Museum of Science was praised by Mr. Weir as being one of the finest in the country, and he praised the development of the art gallery. However, he warned his audience against apathy; he predicted the institution of a thirty-hour work week in the future and a consequent need for a more scientific approach to recreation than in the past. He said, "The time is coming when people will have more free time on their hands than work hours."

Gordon Stephenson, Lever Professor of Civic Design, University of Liverpool, came to Buffalo to speak at the Civic Planning Week dinner. Mr. Stephenson, who graduated from the University of Liverpool, the Institute d'Urbanisme of the University of Paris, and received a degree of Master in City Planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is in this country at the invitation



Lebert H. Weir, left, with Mrs. Howard Babcock, Harry Hainsworth, Buffalo's Director of Recreation



of the Commonwealth Fund to make a study of graduate departments of city and regional planning. His record of accomplishments, and his reputation as one of the world's great planners, drew an audience of association members, their guests, and city and state officials which filled the large Chinese Room of the hotel to capacity.

Mr. Stephenson confined his talk to a discussion of the problems of city planning which confronted postwar England. The effects of the bombing in the last war gave a new importance to civic planning, he told his audience; municipal governments were forced to take a very active part in this work as the result of the drastic housing shortage. His listeners were somewhat startled to learn that four out of five postwar houses were constructed by the government, although contracts for the work were let to private builders.

Mr. Stephenson's message outlined the provisions of the New Towns Act passed by the British government in 1946. A new concept of planning lay behind this legislation. No longer would densely populated cities continue to expand, but new, smaller communities would mushroom into existence throughout the countryside. The first of these small towns was planned by Mr. Stephenson himself. In the new towns, plans are being made for more open space in the downtown areas. In this way, more light and air will be available to office workers; there will be adequate space for parking. Thruways will make the central areas easily accessible to those residents of outlying districts; highways will run between cities and not through them; industrial sites will be concentrated, rather than scattered throughout the city.

Before and during the week, association members spoke before all of the larger clubs, civic and business groups, in order to acquaint their members with the association's aims and accomplishments.

At the week's end, Buffalo planners were counting the objectives which had been attained. Publicity through the media of newspapers and radio had been several times greater than that given projects of the association in comparable spaces of time during the rest of the year. The essay contest had served to awaken Buffalo's youth to its future responsibilities. New enthusiasm had been generated among the more apathetic members, and the city council had appointed a committee to study means of financing projects which had long been recommended by the association.

Above all, Buffalonians were more cognizant of the meaning of the Buffalo City Planning Association's slogan—"Stop panning—start planning!"

## Don B. Dyer



ON THE FIRST of October, Don B. Dyer began his duties as Assistant to the Superintendent in charge of the Department of Municipal Recreation of the Milwaukee Public Schools, succeeding Miss Dorothy Enderis who, for so many

years, has served in this position. Since his employment by the department in 1927, as Social Center Director, Mr. Dyer has served successively as Supervisor of Activities and as General Field Assistant in charge of maintenance. He is, therefore, well-qualified for his new position.

Mr. Dyer graduated from Lawrence College, after which he coached athletics in high school and college and taught in a junior high school. During this period he served as a part-time playground director and social center worker in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and attended the summer session of the National Recreation School. After joining the recreation staff in Milwaukee, he promoted and developed a municipal chess program which has gained international recognition.

His duties with the Milwaukee Recreation Department have not prevented him from participating in varied outside activities. He has taught recreation courses at Milwaukee State Teachers College and at Marquette University, and is the co-author of a book entitled "Liability in Public Recreation," to be published this year. From 1941 to 1945 he served as Secretary of the Wisconsin Recreation Association. In May 1948 he was one of the representatives of the public recreation field who were invited to attend the conference at Jackson's Mill, West Virginia, the purpose of which was to develop an undergraduate recreation curriculum for colleges and universities. Mr. Dyer has given generously of his time in helping small Wisconsin communities in developing recreation programs; and in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, a community of 1,500, he promoted and organized a year-round recreation program that has received wide attention.

Mr. Dyer's many friends in the recreation movement wish for him success in his new and important position.



# Recreation

## Suggestion Box

### Ice Carnivals

**F**OR YOUR ICE carnival, plan speed races for both sexes in three classes—junior, intermediate and senior. The classes should be based on a height-age classification. It is suggested that the speed skating events be: 220 yards, 440 yards, one-half mile, three-fourths mile, one mile, two mile, three mile and five mile races. (Events over one mile should be limited to seniors.)

Other events suitable for an ice carnival are a costume ball, fancy figure skating, barrel jumping. Skate softball is a novel event. All players must be on skates, with ten players to a team. Use a fourteen-sixteen inch softball, and play the game under official softball rules. The bases and lines should be marked in the ice with ink, or other dark coloring material.

If you plan to hold a sanctioned city, county or state meet, be sure that you apply for, and secure, a sanction from the Amateur Skating Association before advertising it as a *sanctioned meet*.

### Dart Games

**T**HE USE OF dart games in recreation programs has become very popular in industrial recreation, according to a recent meeting of members of the Industrial Recreation Association. It was reported that, in a large number of firms, dart games are kept handy, right beside working machines, ready for use at the noon hour. Chrysler Corporation, for instance, bought seventy-five dozen games last year, to be used by the men in the shops.

There is a lot of fun in playing darts. Any number—men or women—can play, and you don't have to be a great athlete nor in the prime of life to enjoy the game.

Popular sizes among dart games are the eighteen by eighteen, twenty-four by twenty-four and twenty-four by thirty-two—all double sided. The Offi-

cial Dartball League Game, forty-eight by forty-eight, is ideal for team play in a recreation room.

### Your Annual Report

**I**N MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA, this year, H. L. Daughory, Chairman of the Recreation Commission, sent out a letter—along with the annual report. It read as follows:

"Dear Fellow Citizen:

"Public recreation in Martinsville last year cost us \$1.38 each. With this amount, a new playground was graded in the cotton mill district; five grounds were provided with supervision for the summer; a day camp was conducted in Church Street Park; industrial recreation was expanded. After-school sports for boys, a puppet theatre for children, and many other services were provided for a population of 18,000 people.

"One dollar thirty-eight cents doesn't go very far these days as you know from the grocery bill. It will buy little over a pound of steak, or five quarts of milk, nine loaves of bread, or about a pound and a quarter of butter.

"But on the other hand, in Martinsville, last year, one million dollars was spent for hard liquor—a form of negative and escape recreation. This amounts to \$73.94 per capita, or per person. The city received \$2.73 per capita for hard liquor sales, or \$49,200.13.

"Can you picture the achievements possible if we, as a people, were willing to spend just a fourth as much for recreation to enrich life in a wholesome constructive manner?

"So as you read the third annual report of the Recreation Commission, which is enclosed, be reminded of costs, but also be reminded of values!

"To you, and the many other good citizens who have encouraged the growth of public recreation, we extend a hearty thank you, and pledge our best efforts in providing more worthwhile recreation opportunities in the coming year."



*This is more  
than the Season's  
Greetings.....*

It is also the expression of a fervent hope that the Spirit of Christmas may endure beyond the holiday season, and that highly placed men of all nations may render more than lip service to the Prince of Peace.

**AMERICAN  
PLAYGROUND DEVICE CO.  
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# Volunteers

***Mrs. Fortinberry, who has extraordinary success in working with volunteers in the popular Recreation Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, revealed some of her methods to Congress delegates in the talk reproduced here.***

OUR CITY OF Baton Rouge, Louisiana, has a population of 120,000 and we reach 10,000 of these people through our recreation program each month. Most of these participants are young adults between the ages of eighteen and twenty-three years.

Because we have a real story to tell about our volunteer activities in the Recreation Center at 115 St. Louis Street, formerly occupied by the USO and, before that, by an old French market, I brought along with me 1,100 copies of a brochure, "The Story of Volunteers at the Recreation Center in Baton Rouge." It is a story told by the volunteers themselves. You will notice that it is published by the *Volunteer Leaders Advisory Program Council*, which is made up of the heads of our various program activities.

Before we, as recreation leaders, can enlist the help of volunteers, we must have an abiding faith in people. I was greatly impressed by the talk Sunday night made by the Reverend Mr. Alexander at the first session of the Congress, when he emphasized the truism that we must love our fellow man to want to serve him, and that through our services in recreation—all over the world—peace may be ours.

We must inspire these potential volunteers with the feeling that there is a definite need for their services and that, without them, the program could not possibly be as rich in enjoyment as it would be with their leadership. How could I plan and carry out effectively five to seven different activities each evening if I were to work alone? Since I am the only professional staff member at my center, I must have real help to provide this recreation for 10,000 young adults who look to us for a better way of life each month.

One of the questions I have been asked to answer here is "Can volunteers be recruited more successfully on a neighborhood basis than on a city-

wide basis?" I should like to ask you this question: "Who is one's neighbor?" If it is the person who lives next door, I would say "No"; but if it is the one with whom you work or with whom you play, then I would say "It is good to enlist your neighbor as a volunteer."

Volunteers must be as carefully selected as if they were to receive pay for their services. To my way of thinking, the recruiting of volunteers must be done in such a fashion as to blend the harmonious efforts of people who like to work together rather than those of people who simply live in the same physical neighborhood. This question has been ably answered by one of my volunteers in "The Story of Volunteers" when he said, "I like my volunteer services at the recreation center, because there I mingle with right thinking people—people who think as I do, that happiness is gained in serving others, because that is the true democratic way of life."

Volunteers often help to train and orientate others whom they may enlist from their own office or some other type of work. I have many very good volunteers who took the training courses under the direction of Mrs. Anne Livingston, of the National Recreation Association, and they, in turn, have assisted me in training others. I have more than 300 volunteers with as many as 250 of these volunteers working with me in some capacity daily. My job is to supervise their activities and to help them plan the programs for those activities in which they are interested.

All publicity and radio spot announcements go out from my desk and, in that way, I see that everyone is given due credit for his or her contributions to the over-all program and, at the same time, that no favoritism is shown.

I have had great success enlisting volunteers from thirteen business girls' sororities, many of whom serve as individual volunteers and, on occa-



sions when I need them, serve as a group.

To hold volunteers I would say that the first essential is to be a good leader yourself. Be willing to work side by side with your volunteers, with the emphasis placed on the *VISION*, rather than on the *SUPER* in supervision. Be willing to take suggestions and constructive criticism with graciousness and understanding.

Do not irritate volunteers with too many "don'ts." Place them in the front line and praise them when they deserve it. Offer constructive corrections when they have done something not in keeping with the standards of the recreation center, and be fair and impartial in your judgments.

Do not show favoritism in giving prominent space in your weekly bulletins and in your newspaper publicity, telling of the activities of your volunteers. One of the most effective means of volunteer recognition is to plan an annual party in their honor, naming it "The Annual Volunteer Awards Program and Reception." Make the occasion the most outstanding event of the year, carefully looking after the details of program and seeking for the perfection of decorations and all the things which go to make for a successful affair. This show of appreciation will make them swell with pride when you introduce them as the chairmen or workers in their particular activity.

Plan big things for volunteers to do. They are not satisfied with small things—they should not be allowed to drift—everything must be kept humming. Help them build respect; and command respect for yourself. It is advisable to make surveys at intervals to find out what they are thinking about and to see if they have some new ideas to offer in the way of programming.

I have found it advantageous for close cooperation and understanding to organize the top leaders in each activity into a council, which I call the Volunteer Leaders Advisory Program Council. This gives dignified emphasis to their part in the program and, at the same time, provides a bulwark of strength behind the director.

It is well for the director of any recreation unit to instill into the thinking of each volunteer the fact that, to get the best results, there must be the most harmonious relationships between the professional worker and the volunteer, and that in case misunderstanding should arise, the two must sit down and talk things over.

It has been my experience that volunteers accept responsibility in almost every phase of recreation work and they not only find civic enjoyment in performing these duties, but recreational relaxation as well. The volunteers in Baton Rouge are

loyal, faithful and ever ready to assist in planning and promoting a program of which we are justly proud.

## ***I Am a Volunteer . . .***

"Being a volunteer for a worthy cause of community program is a privilege that brings in its wake feelings of deep pride and satisfaction. I do not feel that I am a volunteer—I am merely a grateful citizen drawing abundant inspiration and happiness for my opportunity to serve my community."—Rabbi Bernard Baskin, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



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## Magazines and Pamphlets

Recently Received Containing Articles of  
Current Interest to the Recreation Worker

- Standard for Grandstands, Tents and Other Places of Outdoor Assembly.** National Fire Protection Association, 60 Batterymarch Street, Boston 10, Massachusetts. Price \$.25.
- Community Education in Action.** American Association for Adult Education, 525 West 120 Street, New York 27. Price \$.50.
- Journal of Health and Physical Education**, June 1948  
Hostelling in France, Betty Carlson.  
Personal Water Safety, Johanna Putrin.  
Apparatus Activities, W. K. Streit.
- The Nation's Schools**, May 1948  
Parents Build a Playground, William E. Sheehan.  
Summer Activities Program for Younger Children, John S. Benben.
- California Schools**, June 1948  
Recreation Services in California Public School Districts, Carson Conrad.
- Beach and Pool**, June 1948  
Filter Systems of Swimming Pools.
- National Municipal Review**, July 1948  
Redevelopment Without Plan, Ruth G. Weintraub and Rosalind Tough.
- The Nation's Schools**, July 1948  
Gymnasium and Cafeteria Under One Roof, Leonard A. Steger.
- Beach and Pool**, July 1948  
Share the Fun!—Games and Stunts Inspire "Desire to Swim," Karl R. Schneek.  
Richmond Lake Demonstrates Advantages of "Level Purification," Pat Perkinson.  
The Load that Breaks the Diving Board, H. M. Naigles.

## Authors in This Issue

MARGARET HICKEY—Public Affairs Editor, *Ladies' Home Journal*, is active in public affairs. She attended the United Nations Conference in San Francisco and worked with women of many nations on the Human Rights section of the Charter. Article on page 389.

R. WALTER CAMMACK—Superintendent of Recreation in Mount Vernon, New York. Article on page 395.

FERN ALLEN SCHWANKL—Recreation Director of Elizabeth Kenny Institute in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Article on page 401.

A. F. WILEDEN—Rural Sociologist, University of Wisconsin. Article on page 410.

MARY BARNUM BUSH HAUCK—Founder and director of Dauphin County Folk Festival. Article on page 418.

MARSHALL R. LAIRD—Former Superintendent of Recreation in Scarsdale, New York; now Superintendent of Recreation in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Article on page 420.

KATHERINE V. FORTINBERRY—Director of Recreation Center and Publicity, Recreation and Park Commission, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Article on page 427.

## Books Received

- Best Religious Stories**, edited by J. Edward Lanz. Association Press, New York. \$2.50.
- Betty Loring, Illustrator**, by Jessica Lyon. Julian Messner, New York. \$2.50.
- Bird Hiking**, by Leon A. Hausman. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, New Jersey. \$2.00.
- Circus Day, Farmer John's, The Garden Gate**, words and music by Claire Harsha Upshur. Harold Flammer, New York. \$.40 each.
- College Facilities for Physical Education, Health Education, and Recreation**, published by the College Physical Education Association. Glenn Howard, Queens College, Flushing, New York.
- Community Organization for Recreation**, by Gerald B. Fitzgerald. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$4.00.
- Creative Art Crafts**, by Pedro de Lemos. The Davis Press, Worcester, Massachusetts. \$4.75.
- Fun-Makers for Small Groups**, by Edna Geister. Harper and Brothers, New York. \$1.75.
- Industrial Arts Program, The**, by Louis V. Newkirk and William H. Johnson. The Macmillan Company, New York.
- Magic Chef Cooking**. American Stove Company, St. Louis, Missouri. \$1.50.
- Modern Swimming Pool Data and Design**. The Re-finite Corporation, Omaha, Nebraska. \$2.50.
- Music Americans Sing**, by Harry Wilson, Joseph Leeder and Edith White Gee. Silver Burdett Company, New York. \$1.32.
- Pass That Puck!** by Richard T. Flood. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, Massachusetts. \$2.50.
- Plastic Craft**, by Ernest DeWick and John H. Cooper. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$5.00.
- Terry and Bunky Play Hockey**, by Dick Fishel and Ken Hay. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$1.75.
- These Things We Tried**, by Jean and Jess Ogden. Extension Division, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia. Paper binding, \$1.50; cloth binding, \$3.00.
- Walt Disney's Treasure Chest**, illustrated by the Walt Disney Studio. Simon and Schuster, Incorporated, New York. \$1.00.



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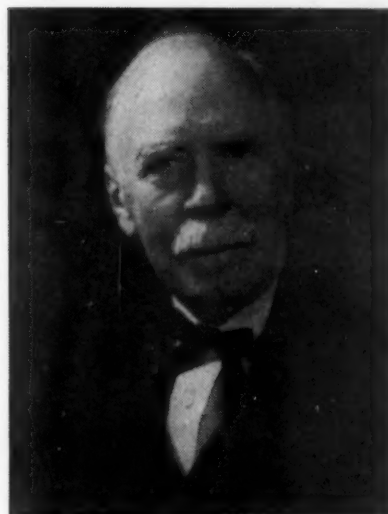


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## New Equipment

## Dr. C. B. Smith



**M**R. C. C. NIXON, Director of Recreation in Newport News, Virginia, writes:

"I have been wanting to tell you about some recreation facilities that were given to our city by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company—the chief industry of this community—the largest such contribution being two modern outdoor swimming pools, one for white citizens and one for colored. Both pools are identical in design and dimensions; they are 160 feet by seventy-five feet and are equipped with the latest filtration and chlorination plants. There are three diving boards on each side of the pools at the deepest point—one low, one one meter and one three meters high. The pools each have two shallow ends and slope toward the center, which has a depth of nine feet. Underwater porthole-style lights and overhead lighting add a great deal to the after-dark appearance. The pools are raised and terraced, with cement walks both inside and outside of the cyclone fencing enclosures. The Recreation Division charges ten cents per person for the use of the swimming pools and, even at this low rate, the pools have been almost entirely self-supporting because of the great number of people who make use of them (an average of more than 1,500 per day). An outstanding event during our two successful seasons of operation has been an annual bathing beauty contest for teen-age girls, at which a Miss Teen and Miss Junior Teen are chosen at both the white and negro pools.

"These swimming pools are by no means the only recreation facilities which the shipyard has given to our City Recreation Division. Others include three sets of lights for softball and touch football (two on white athletic fields and one on a colored field), several backstops for softball and baseball diamonds, goal posts for football fields and, on numerous occasions, materials for repairs to facilities and equipment at times when such materials were extremely hard to get. The City of Newport News and the surrounding communities are fortunate, indeed, to have in their midst an organization such as the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, which recognizes the value of a recreation program and is willing to support it with such splendid facilities as these."

**T**HE LEADERS in the National Recreation Association have learned with sorrow of the death of Dr. C. B. Smith, who served for so many years as head of the Extension Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. A number of the workers of the Association felt almost as if they were on the staff of Dr. Smith in working on rural recreation, and all spoke with the greatest enthusiasm of what his leadership meant to our country. He was a truly great government worker, and though he had been retired for some years, his death is a loss to the country.

## John Sharp

**J**OHAN SHARP, who was superintendent of recreation and manager of the Whiting, Indiana, Community Center for the past twenty-three years, died on the eighth of October. Through the years of his service in the national recreation movement, he had brought to his tasks deep devotion, and a realistic understanding of the desires and needs of people for recreation.

Under Mr. Sharp's guidance, the Whiting Community Center had developed for community use such facilities as a large and a small gymnasium, a full-sized indoor swimming pool, a handball court, weightlifting room, locker rooms, auditorium and several clubrooms. Carrying on this work will be his successor, Joseph McDonald, formerly the Center's athletic director for men's and boys' activities.



# New Publications

## Covering the Leisure Time Field

### Christmas Carols— Their Authors and Composers

Annotated by Alvina H. Mottinger. G. Schirmer, New York. \$1.00.

**T**HIS IS A collection of forty-seven old and modern carols, with words, melodies, and piano accompaniments. It includes most of the old time favorites but also a good selection, less familiar, by contemporary and recently living composers. Supplementing the music, in the case of each of the carols, is a half page or more of biographical notes on the composer, and historical information.

### The Golden Christmas Manger

Simon and Schuster, New York. \$1.00.

**T**HIS IS THE nicest idea we've seen in a long time—Helen Sewell's beautiful drawings of the Christmas story all ready to cut out and fold, so that they stand up, ready to be made into a crèche; or manger scene! There's a stable, too, all ready for the Babe, the Wise Men, the Shepherds, and the Heavenly Host. And, to really please your favorite child, a big Star, animals, birds, and flowers. All the pictures are in Miss Sewell's best style, rich in color and delightful in design—thirty-two of them!

If you still get excited over Christmas—and who doesn't—you'll want a set for your own mantel or Christmas table. But be sure to give the favorite child a copy a week before December 25, so the crèche can be set up in good time!

### Big Farmer Big and Little Farmer Little

By Kathryn and Byron Jackson, with pictures by Feodor Rojankovsky. Simon and Schuster, New York. \$1.00.

**T**HE TWO FARMERS are beset by various problems: the biggest farmer in the world feeds his cows and horses so much that they grow until the clouds tickle their ears; Little Farmer Little, who has the smallest farm in the world, is tired of sleeping in a milkweed pod, and so seeks a new bed. The full-color illustrations, which appear on every page, are as amusing as the kangaroo cover. This has a little book about the little farmer tucked into the cover of the big book about the big farmer.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946, OF RECREATION, published monthly at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1948.

STATE OF NEW YORK } ss.  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK }

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared ROSE J. SCHWARTZ, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the Business Manager of RECREATION, and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily, weekly, semiweekly or triweekly newspaper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1946 (section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations), printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher: National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Editor: Howard Braucher, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Managing Editor: Dorothy Donaldson, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Business Manager: Rose J. Schwartz, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

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ROSE J. SCHWARTZ.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of September, 1947.

MIRIAM S. C. DOCHTERMANN,  
Notary Public, Nassau County.

Nassau County Clerk's No. 99, Certificate Filed in New York County, Clerk's No. 320. Register's No. 27-D-0. Commission expires March 30, 1950.